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**1**  
**JUN**


# Flash Gordon

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AUTHORITY



Williams





**DEDICATED TO ALEX RAYMOND,  
WHO CREATED FLASH GORDON—**

**— AND TO BUSTER CRABBE,  
WHO WAS FLASH GORDON.**



# Flash Gordon





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# Flash Gordon

CHAPTER ONE:

TREACHERY  
IN TORNEO

SOMEWHERE, COUNTLESS MILLIONS OF MILES ACROSS THE BLACK, ETERNAL NIGHT OF SPACE, SPINS THE PLANET MONGO. A SPHERE OF MANY WEIRD AND FANTASTIC PEOPLES, IT IS ALSO THE HOME OF EARTHBOBN DALE ARDEN, DR. HANS ZARKOV... AND FLASH GORDON, THE GREATEST HERO OF TWO WORLDS!

DALE, ZARKOV, AND  
FLASH ROCKET  
THROUGH MONGO'S  
ATMOSPHERE.

WELL, DALE...  
ZARKOV, IT'LL  
BE GOOD TO  
SEE TORNEO  
AGAIN.

THIS IS  
SO EXCITING!  
INTRODUCING  
OLYMPIC COMPETI-  
TION TO REPLACE  
THE AWFUL TOURNA-  
MENT OF DEATH  
HAS BEEN ONE OF  
YOUR GREATEST  
ACHIEVEMENTS,  
FLA

SHE'S RIGHT,  
M'BOY. YOU CAN  
BE PROUD OF  
THE CHANGES  
YOU'VE  
BROUGHT TO  
MONGO!





THAT WE BROUGHT  
TO MONGO, OLD  
FRIEND.

BUT UNDER **YOUR**  
LEADERSHIP, MOST  
ALL OF THIS WAR-  
LOVING PLANET'S FIERCE  
PEOPLES HAVE LEARNED  
TO COEXIST PEACE-  
FULLY.

AH, WE'VE SEEN SO MUCH IN 60  
SHORT YEARS! WAS IT REALLY  
THAT LONG AGO THAT WE  
MET, ON AN EARTH  
THREATENED BY...

DRIVEN TO INSANITY BY MY  
FRANTIC ATTEMPT TO  
DIVERT THE ONRUSHING  
PLANET FROM ITS COLLI-  
SION WITH EARTH...

...INTERSTELLAR  
CATASTROPHE?

...AND FORCED YOU  
TO ACCOMPANY ME  
ON THE TRIP OF A  
LIFETIME...

...I TOOK YOU  
TWO CAPTIVE...

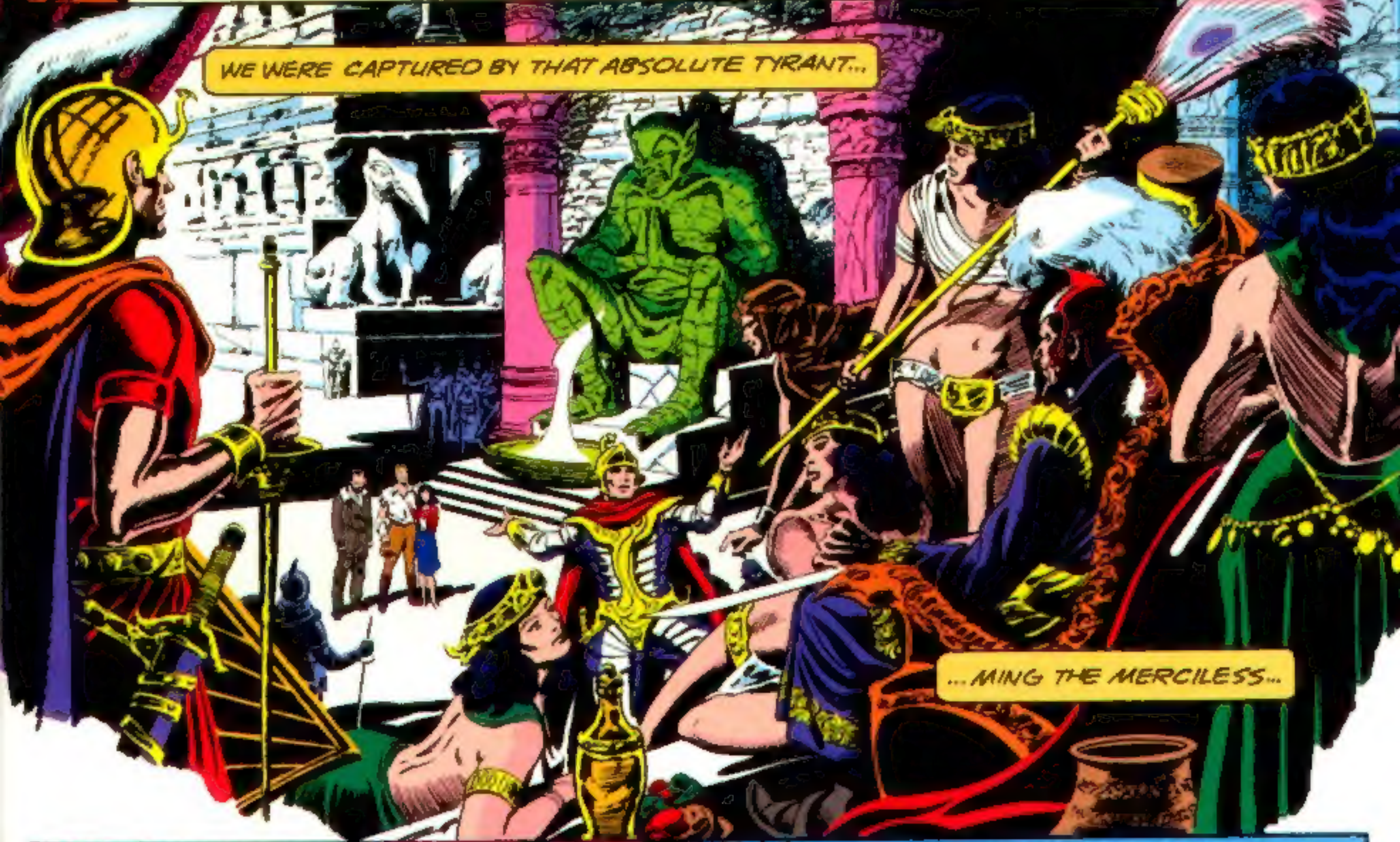
...TO THE WANDERING  
PLANET MONGO!





CAN YOU REMEMBER OUR  
SURPRISE TO DISCOVER THAT  
MONGO SUPPORTED LIFE?

AND WHAT LIFE!



WE WERE CAPTURED BY THAT ABSOLUTE TYRANT...

...MING THE MERCILESS...



BUT WE MADE FRIENDS, TOO!  
FRIENDS LIKE THUN, KING OF THE  
LION PEOPLE, AND PRINCE BARIN,  
THE RIGHTFUL RULER OF MONGO,  
WHO HELPED US ESCAPE AND  
SURVIVE MANY HAIR-RAISING  
ADVENTURES.

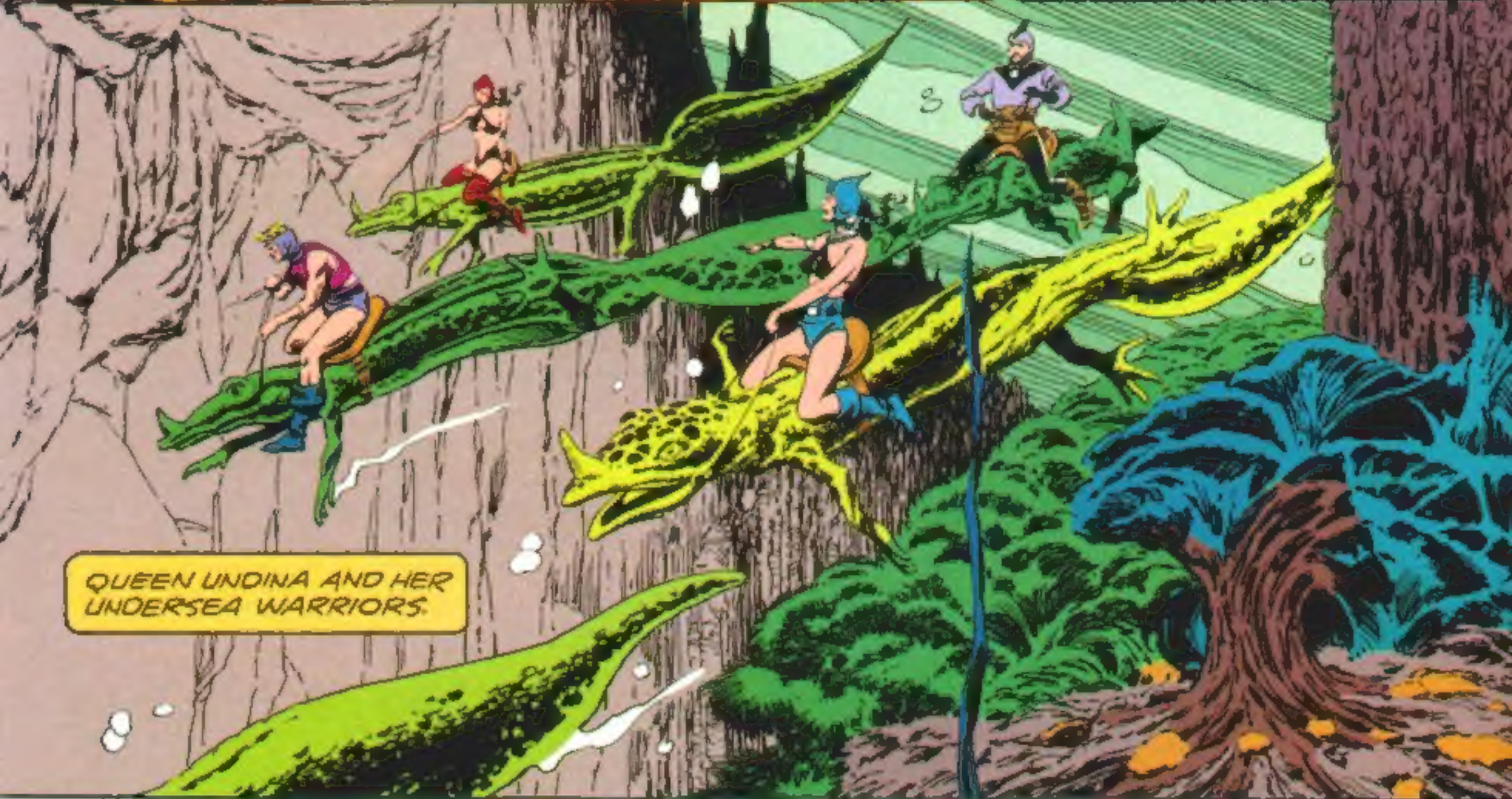


SO MANY ADVENTURES... WITH  
VOLTAN OF THE HAWKMEN...



AZURA, THE WITCH QUEEN...


QUEEN UNDINA AND HER  
UNDERSEA WARRIORS.



BUT IT WAS YOU, FLASH, WHO WELDED  
ALL THESE WILD, DIVERSE PEOPLE  
INTO AN EFFECTIVE RESISTANCE  
AGAINST THE EMPIRE OF  
MING...








AND IT WAS YOU WHO  
EVENTUALLY BROKE  
MING'S POWER.

THANKS...  
I GUESS.

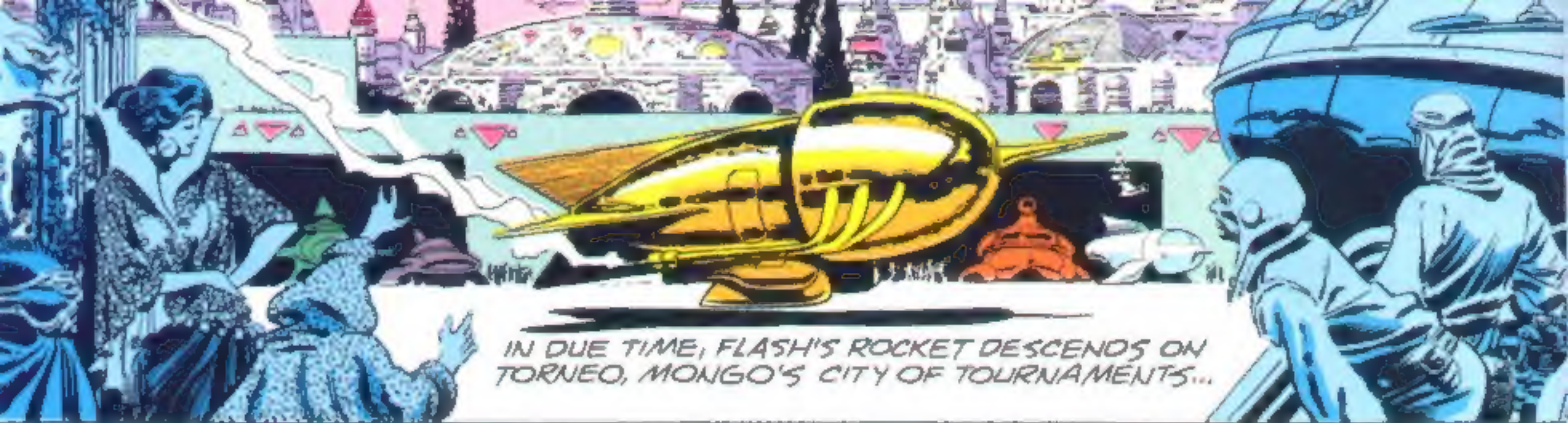
FRIGIAN SCIENTISTS  
HAVE CREATED  
VIRTUAL IMMORTALITY,  
BUT WORLD POPULA-  
TION REMAINS LOW...  
THANKS TO  
VIOLENT DEATH.

BUT WE ALL  
KNOW THAT PEACE ON  
MONGO IS A FRAGILE  
BUSINESS. I FEAR THAT  
IT WILL SOONER OR  
LATER SHATTER ON  
A WORLD THAT  
VALUES TRUST AND  
KINDNESS SO  
LITTLE.



WELL, WE  
BENEFIT FROM  
THE IMMORTALITY  
DRUG, TOO. WE'LL  
HAVE LOTS OF  
TIME TO SET  
MONGO  
STRAIGHT.





IN DUE TIME, FLASH'S ROCKET DESCENDS ON TORNEO, MONGO'S CITY OF TOURNAMENTS...



...AND IS GREETED BY THE CURRENT OLYMPIC HOST, PRINCE BARIN.

FLASH!  
IT'S BEEN  
TOO LONG!

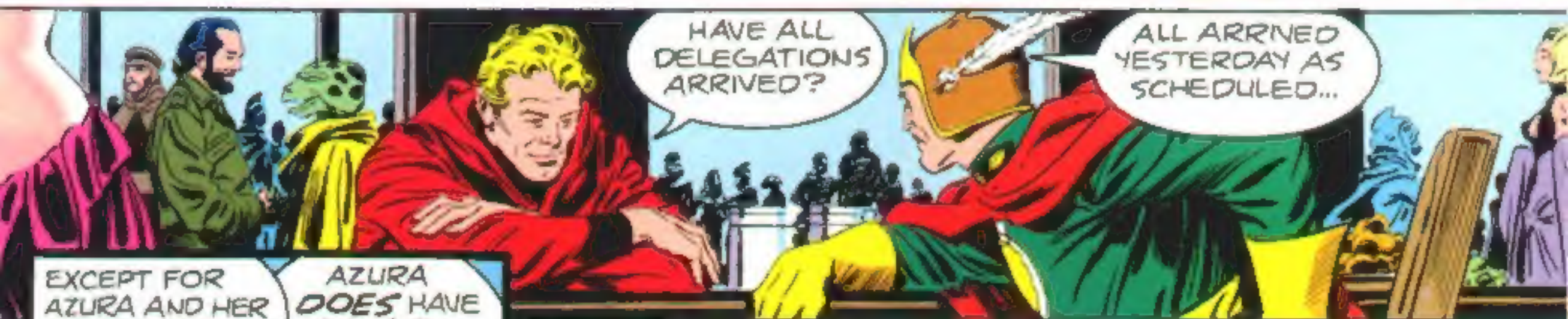
FAR  
TOO LONG,  
OLD MAN!



AND NOW YOU ARE MAN-  
AGING THE OLYMPICS!  
TELL ME, IS TORNEO  
PREPARED TO HANDLE  
THE CONVERGENCE  
OF ALL THE GREAT-  
EST ATHLETES  
OF MONGO?

TORNEO IS  
PREPARED FOR  
ANYTHING!

AND I  
THINK THAT  
ONCE EVERYONE  
GETS USED TO THE  
NOTION OF  
CHECKING THEIR  
WEAPONS UPON  
ARRIVAL, THIS  
"SPORTSMAN-  
LIKE" COMPETI-  
TION OF YOURS  
SHOULD BE  
A ROARING  
SUCCESS!



HAVE ALL  
DELEGATIONS  
ARRIVED?

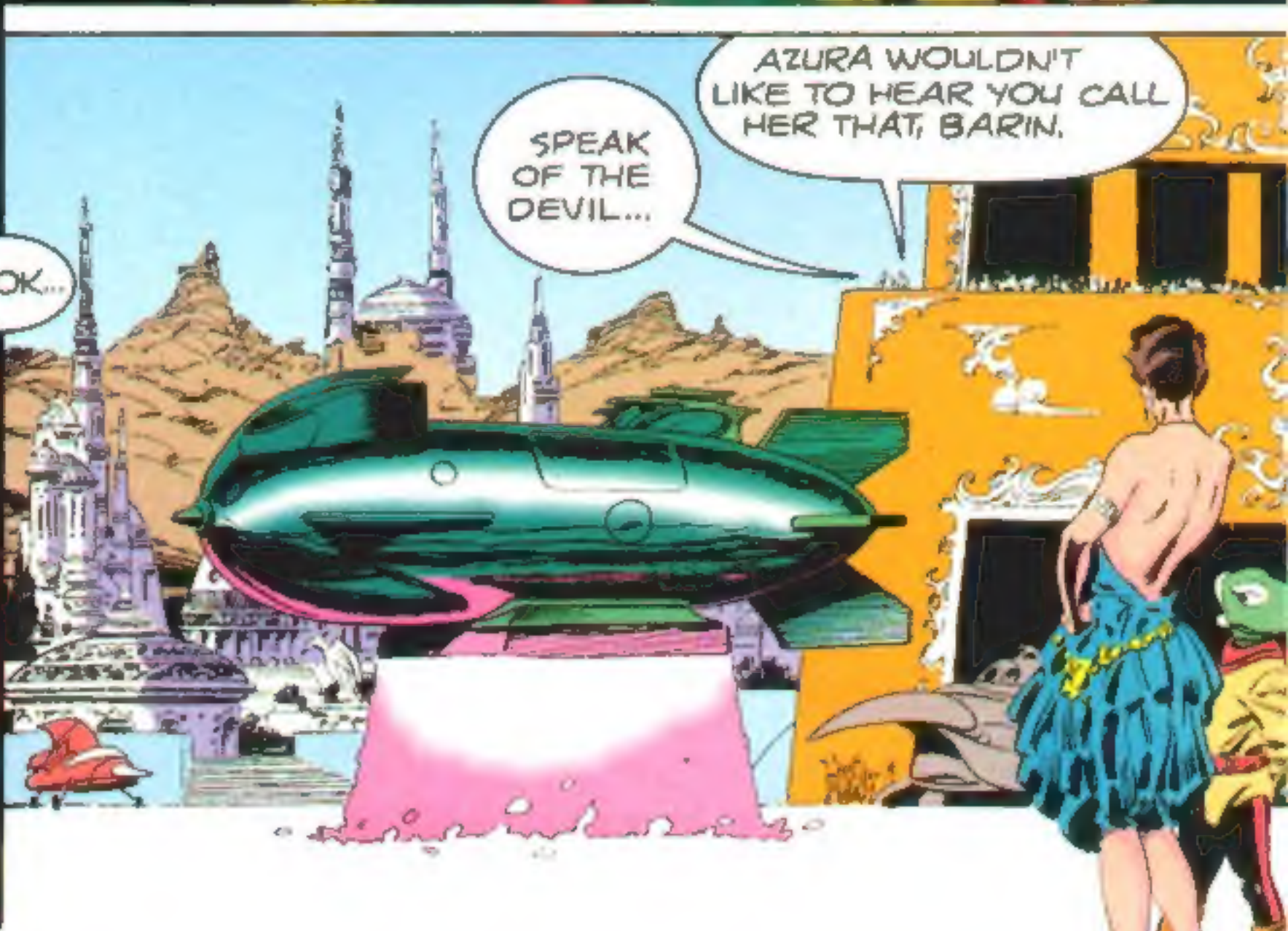
ALL ARRIVED  
YESTERDAY AS  
SCHEDULED...



EXCEPT FOR  
AZURA AND HER  
BLUE MAGIC  
WARRIORS.

AZURA  
DOES HAVE  
A FLAIR  
FOR THE  
DRAMATIC,  
BUT THIS  
LAXITY IS  
UNLIKE HER.  
FRANKLY...

LOOK...



SPEAK  
OF THE  
DEVIL...

AZURA WOULDN'T  
LIKE TO HEAR YOU CALL  
HER THAT, BARIN.





AZURA, IT'S GREAT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

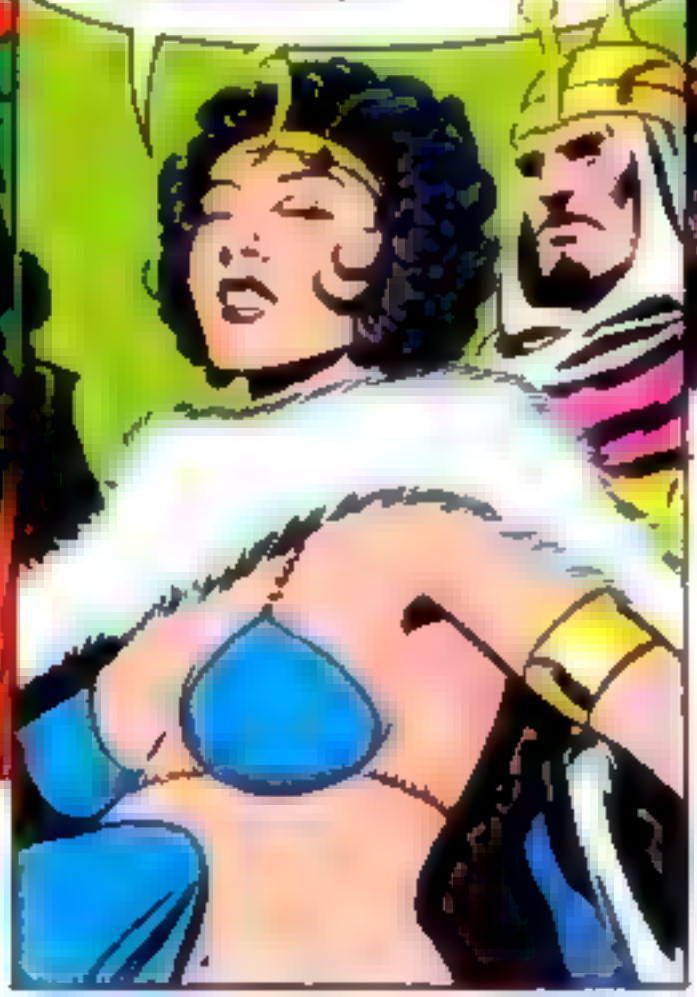
THE QUEEN OF THE BLUE MAGIC KINGDOM..

.BIDS ALL THE GATHERED PEOPLES OF MONGO

..WELCOME

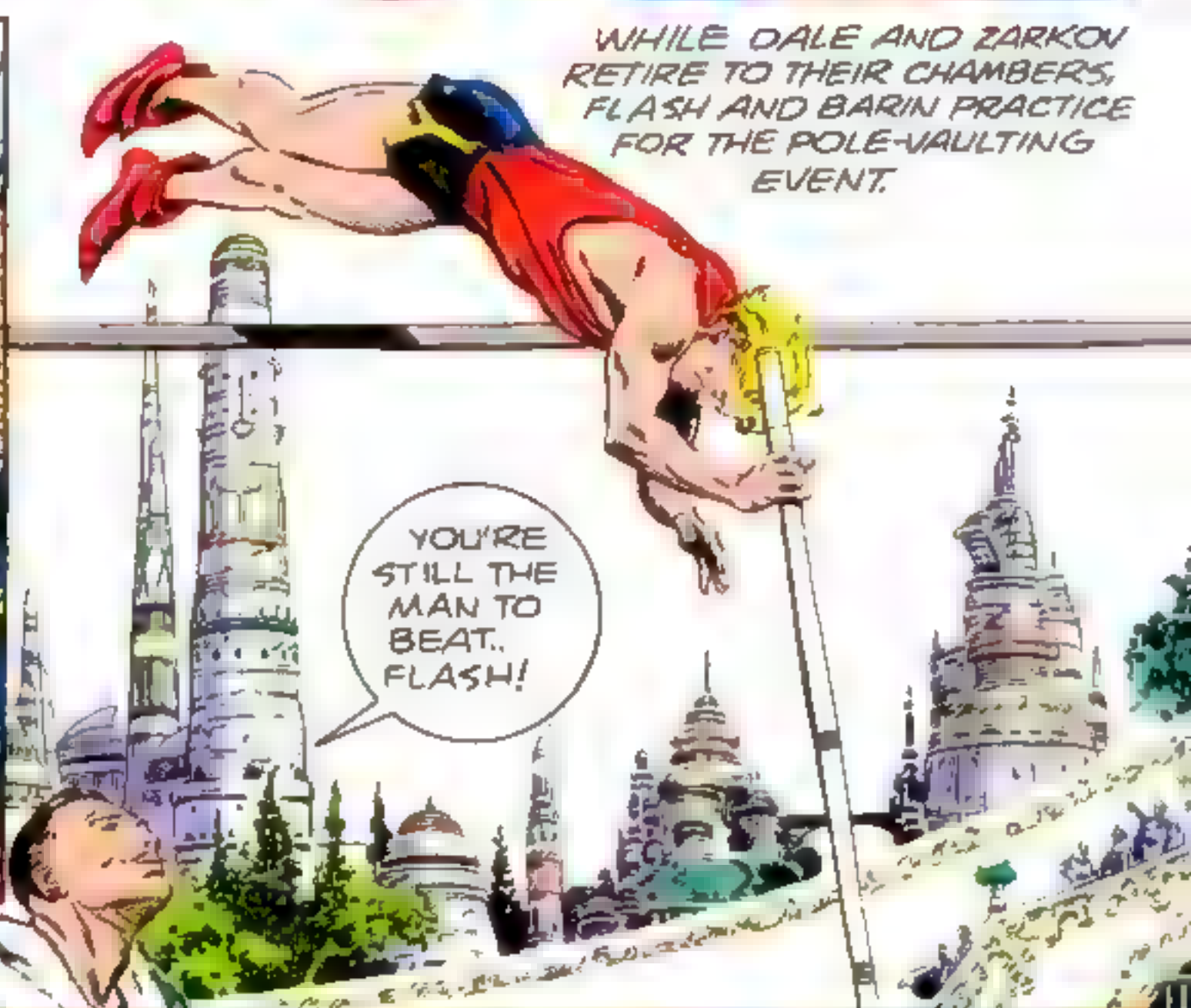
AZURA AND HER AIDE, TRALGOR, COLDLY IGNORE FLASH AND THE OTHERS.

YOU WILL EXCUSE US NOW. WE HAVE TRAVELED FAR AND ARE TIRED. GOOD DAY



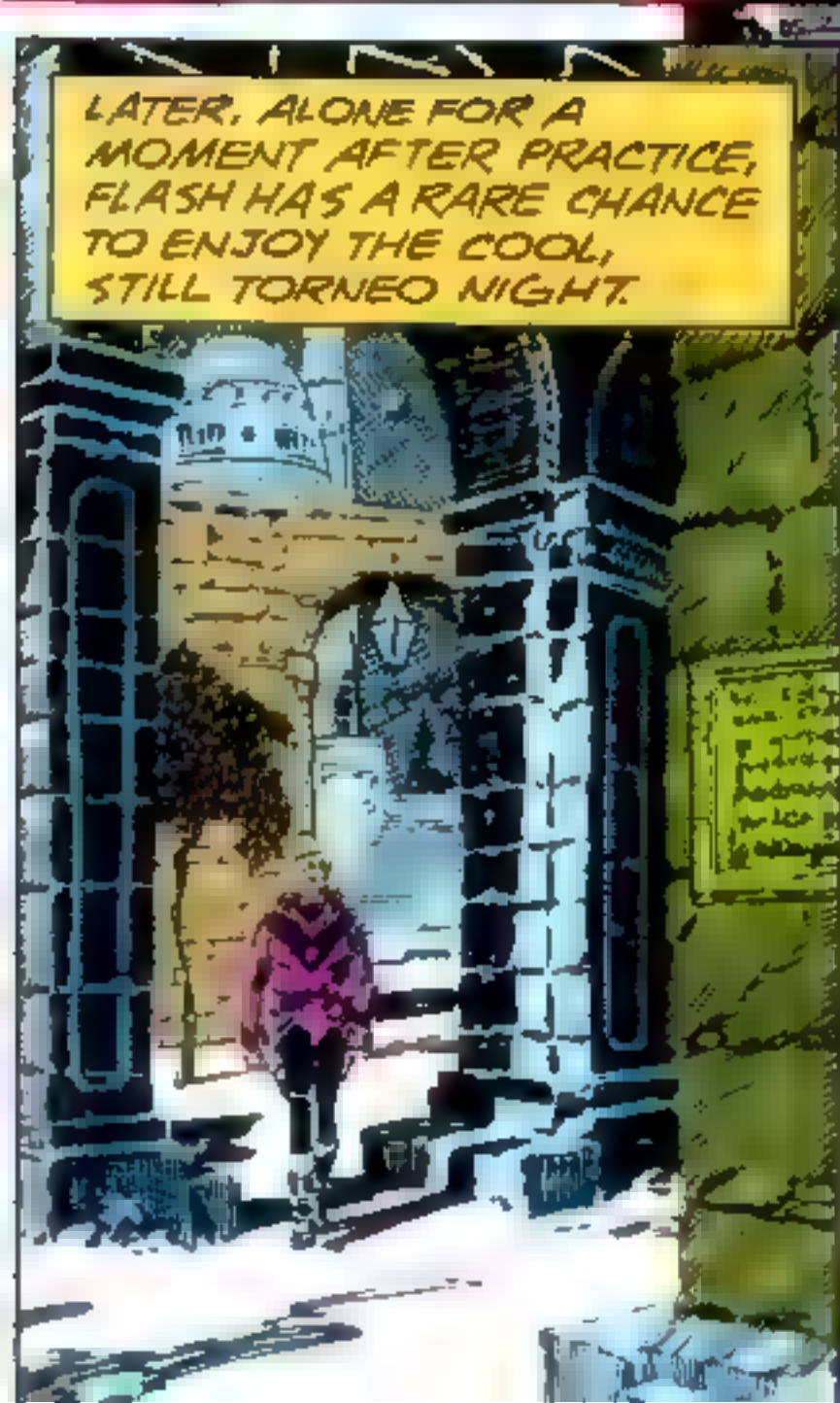
WHAT'S WITH HER?

APPARENTLY, ANOTHER ONE OF HER MOODS...  
-SIGH-...AND EVERYTHING HAD BEEN GOING SO SMOOTHLY. OH, WELL... I'M SURE YOU COULD USE SOME RELAXATION, TOO. THE PRACTICE DOME...?

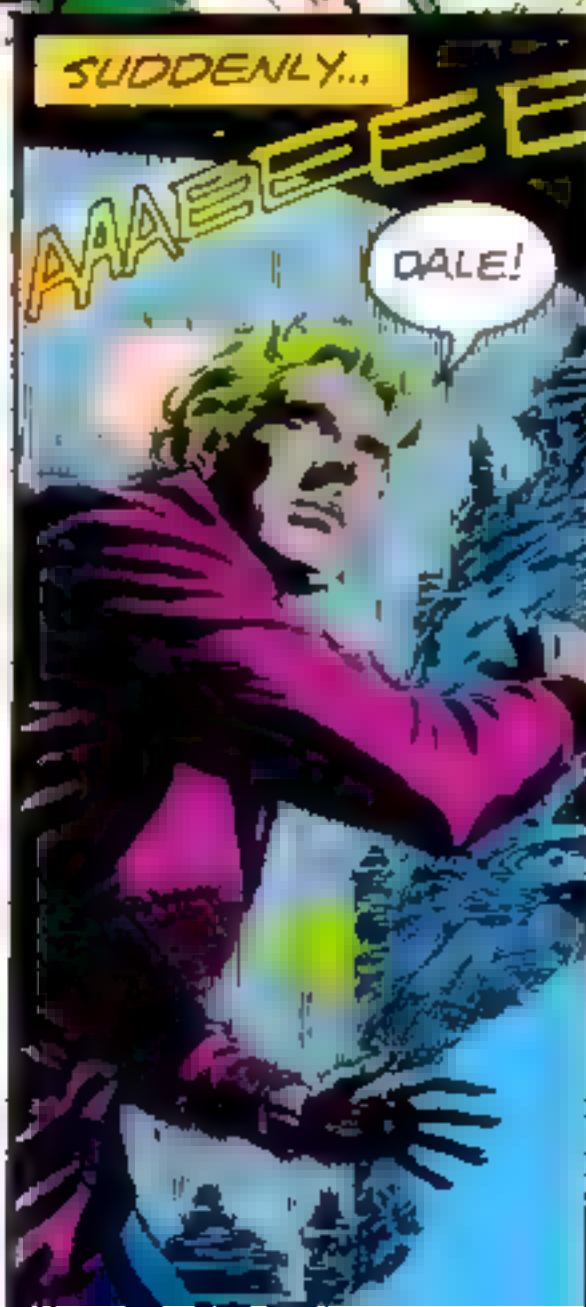


WHILE DALE AND ZARKOV RETIRE TO THEIR CHAMBERS, FLASH AND BARIN PRACTICE FOR THE POLE-VAULTING EVENT.

YOU'RE STILL THE MAN TO BEAT, FLASH!



LATER, ALONE FOR A MOMENT AFTER PRACTICE, FLASH HAS A RARE CHANCE TO ENJOY THE COOL, STILL TORNEO NIGHT.



SUDDENLY...

DALE!



FLASH SPRINTS, ROUNDS A CORNER, AND...

WHAT...





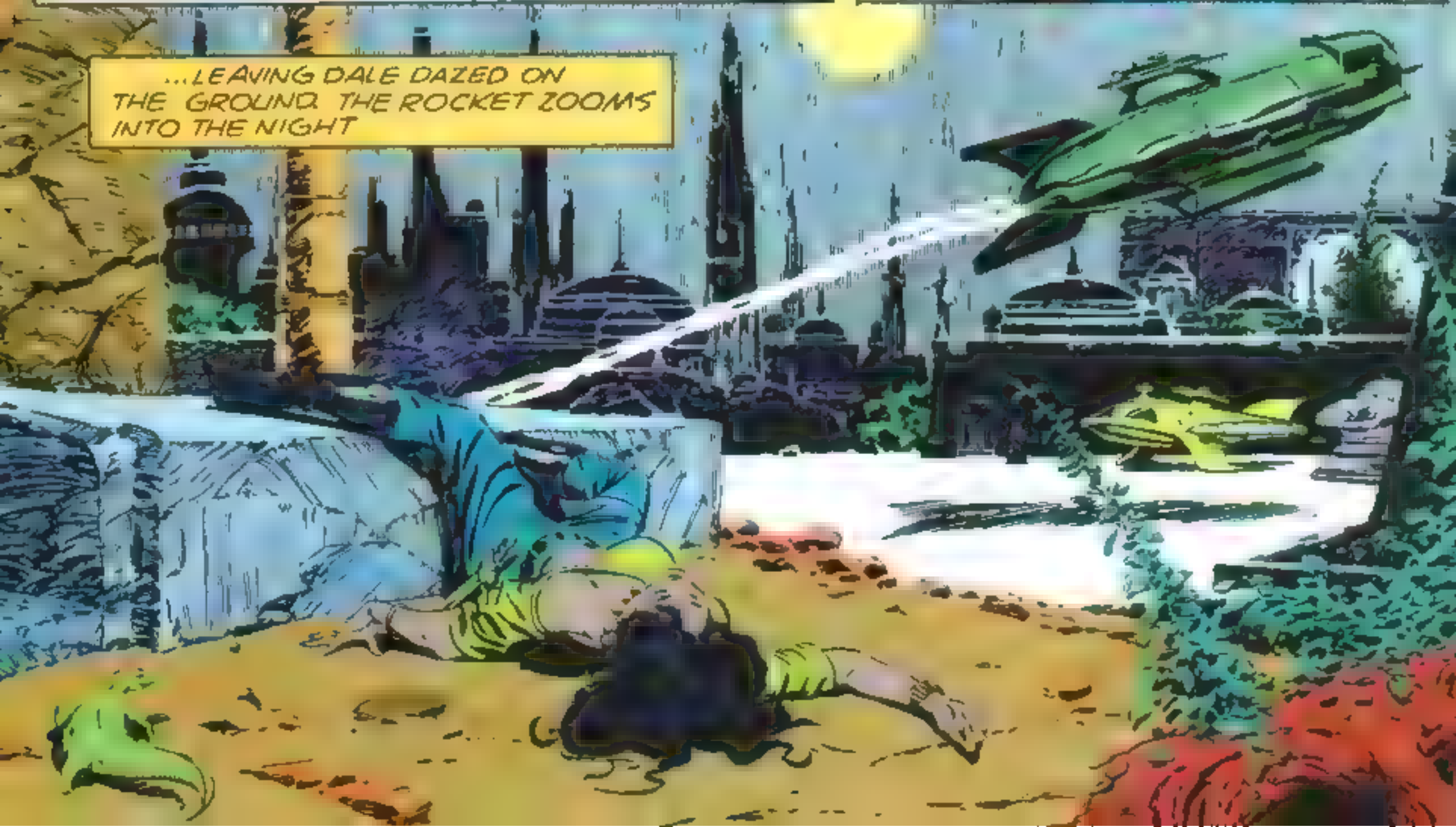
AMBUSH! FLASH FALLS  
IN AN OVERWHELMING  
ATTACK..



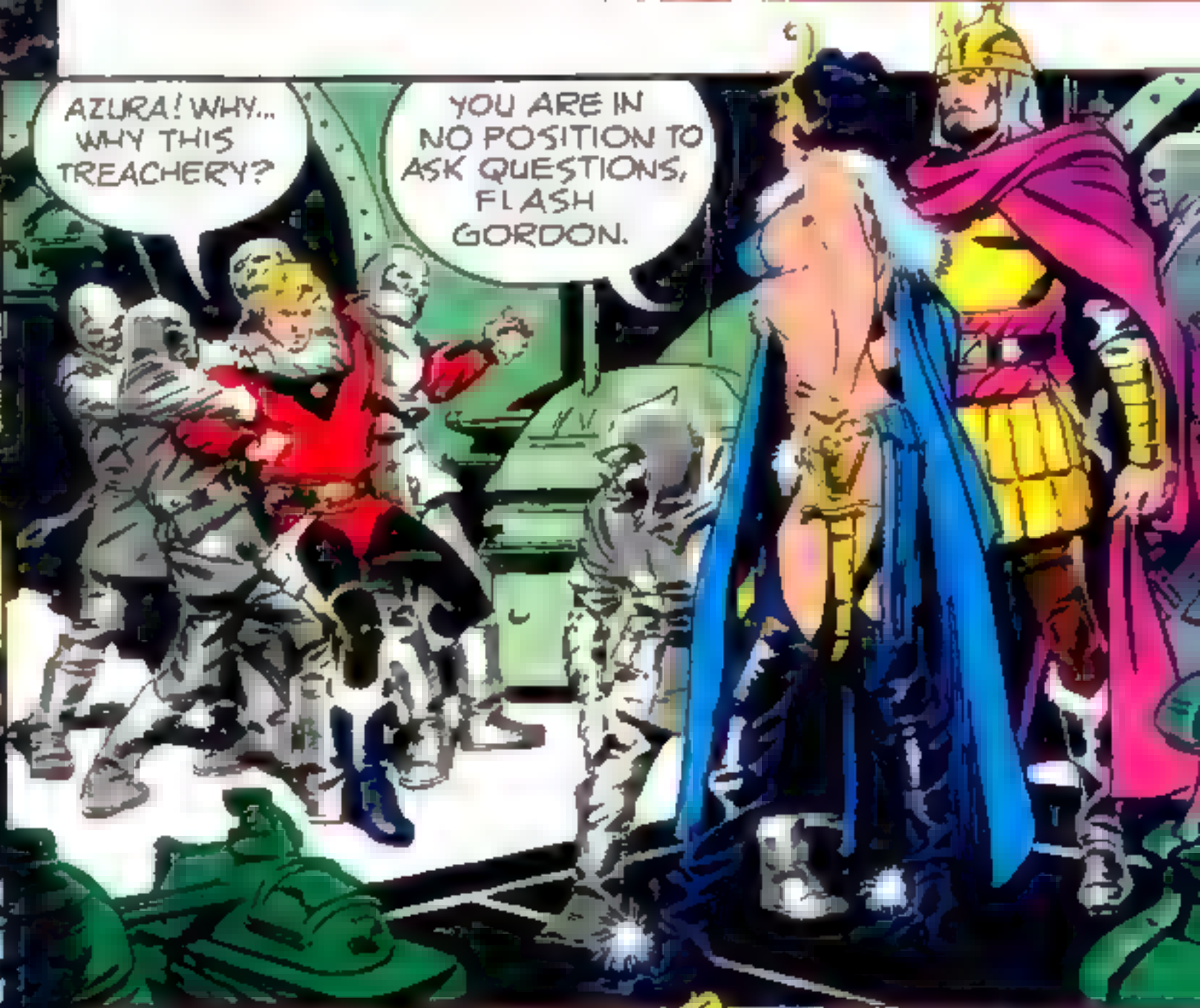
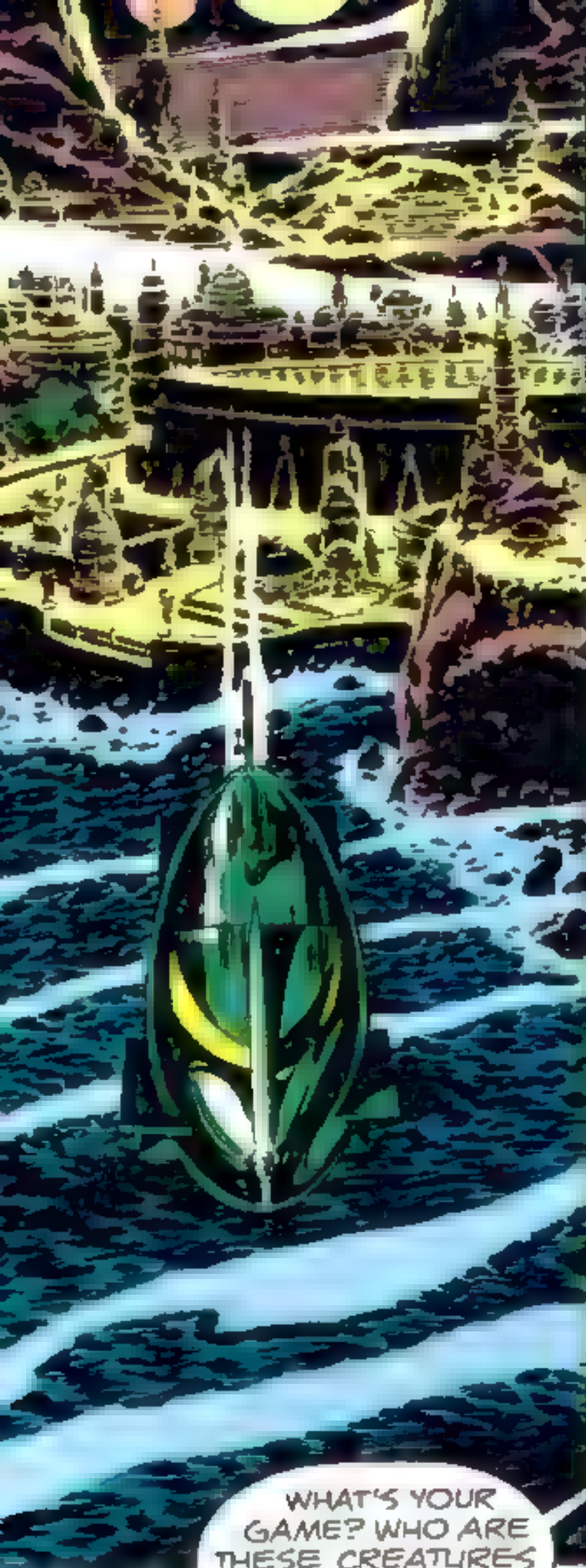
..AND IS QUICKLY RUSHED INTO  
THE WAITING ROCKET



...LEAVING DALE DAZED ON  
THE GROUND. THE ROCKET ZOOMS  
INTO THE NIGHT







AZURA! WHY...  
WHY THIS  
TREACHERY?

YOU ARE IN  
NO POSITION TO  
ASK QUESTIONS,  
FLASH  
GORDON.



BUT TO EASE YOUR  
MIND, DALE ARDEN WAS  
LEFT BEHIND. SHE WAS  
NOT INJURED. SHE  
WAS NO LONGER  
NEEDED.

THANK  
YOU FOR  
THAT  
DECENCY,  
AZURA.

WHAT'S YOUR  
GAME? WHO ARE  
THESE CREATURES  
THAT SERVE  
YOU?

ENOUGH!  
TRALGOR, SEE  
THAT OUR GUEST  
IS TREATED  
APPROPRI-  
ATELY.



AND FLASH IS  
PUT IN A CELL

TALK TO ME,  
TRALGOR. WHY  
HAS AZURA  
BROKEN THE  
PEACE?





NOT A  
VERY TALKATIVE  
GROUP, BUT  
AT LEAST  
THEY'RE  
GONE

NOW I  
CAN GET TO  
WORK ON A  
TRICK ZARKOV  
TAUGHT  
ME



FLASH IMMERSSES ONE END OF  
HIS COIL OF METALLIC MATA-  
NIUM WIRE IN HIS WATER JUG...

IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE..  
IF AZURA'S TURNED REBEL,  
WHY WOULD SHE RELEASE  
DALE TO SOUND THE  
ALARM?



...AND TOSSES THE  
OTHER END INTO THE  
FORCE BEAMS, SHORT-  
ING OUT THEIR POWER

GOOD OL'  
ZARKOV!





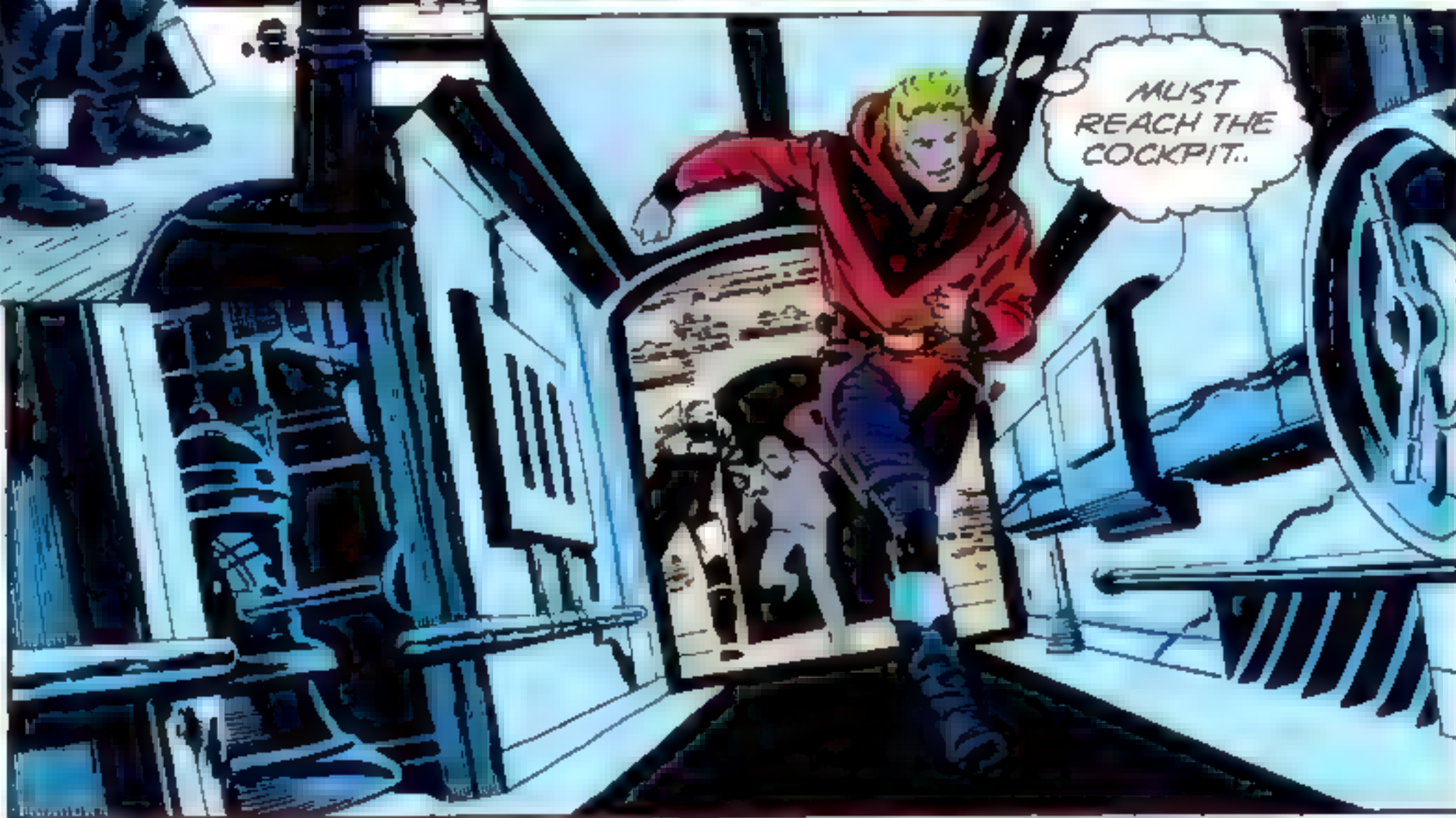


SO FAR,  
SO GOOD...

DALE WILL  
HAVE ALERTED  
BARIN'S ROCKET  
CORPS BY NOW, BUT  
THEY'LL NEVER CATCH  
US IF I CAN'T  
SLOW OUR  
PROGRESS...



UH-OH!



MUST  
REACH THE  
COCKPIT..



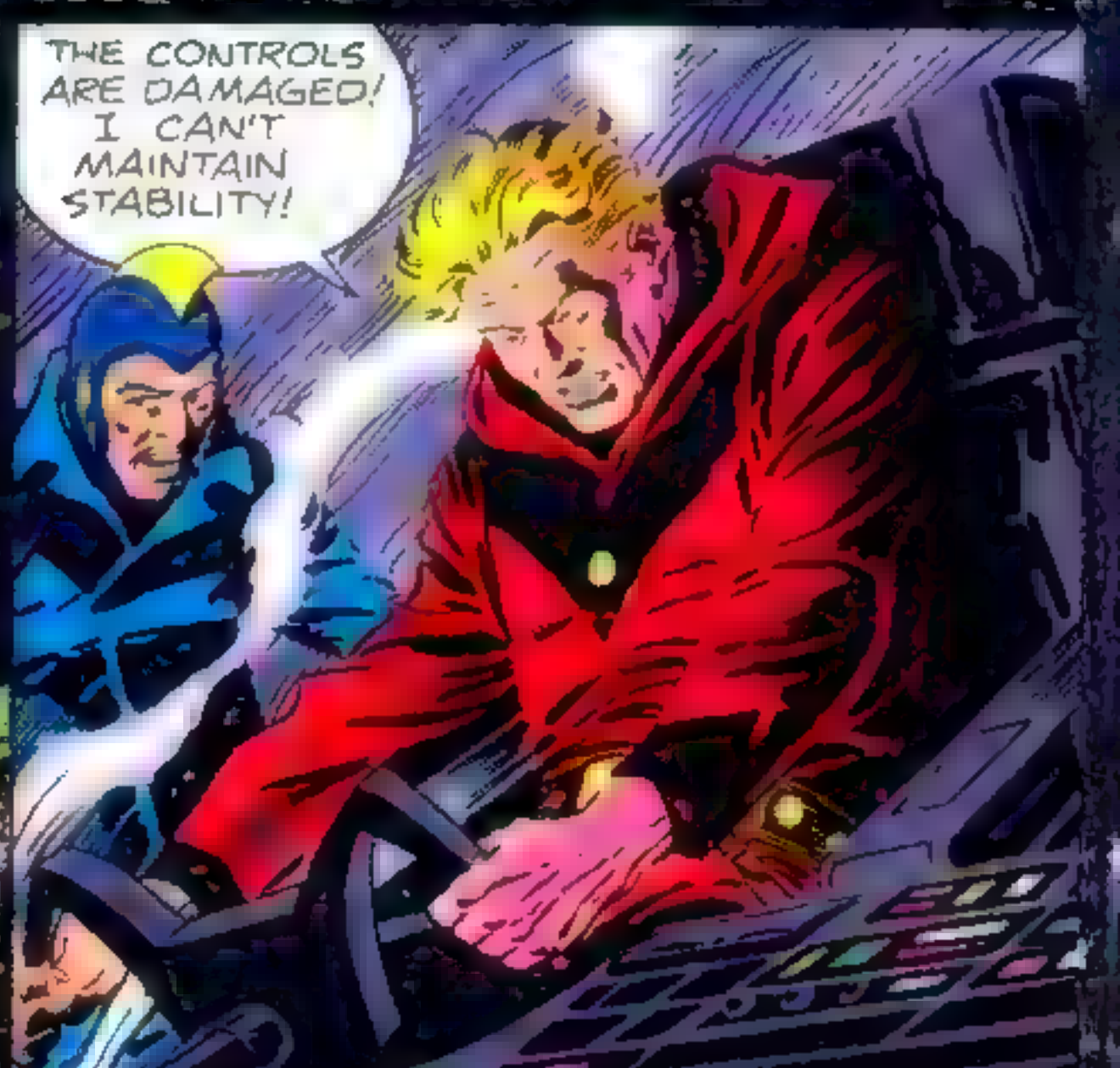
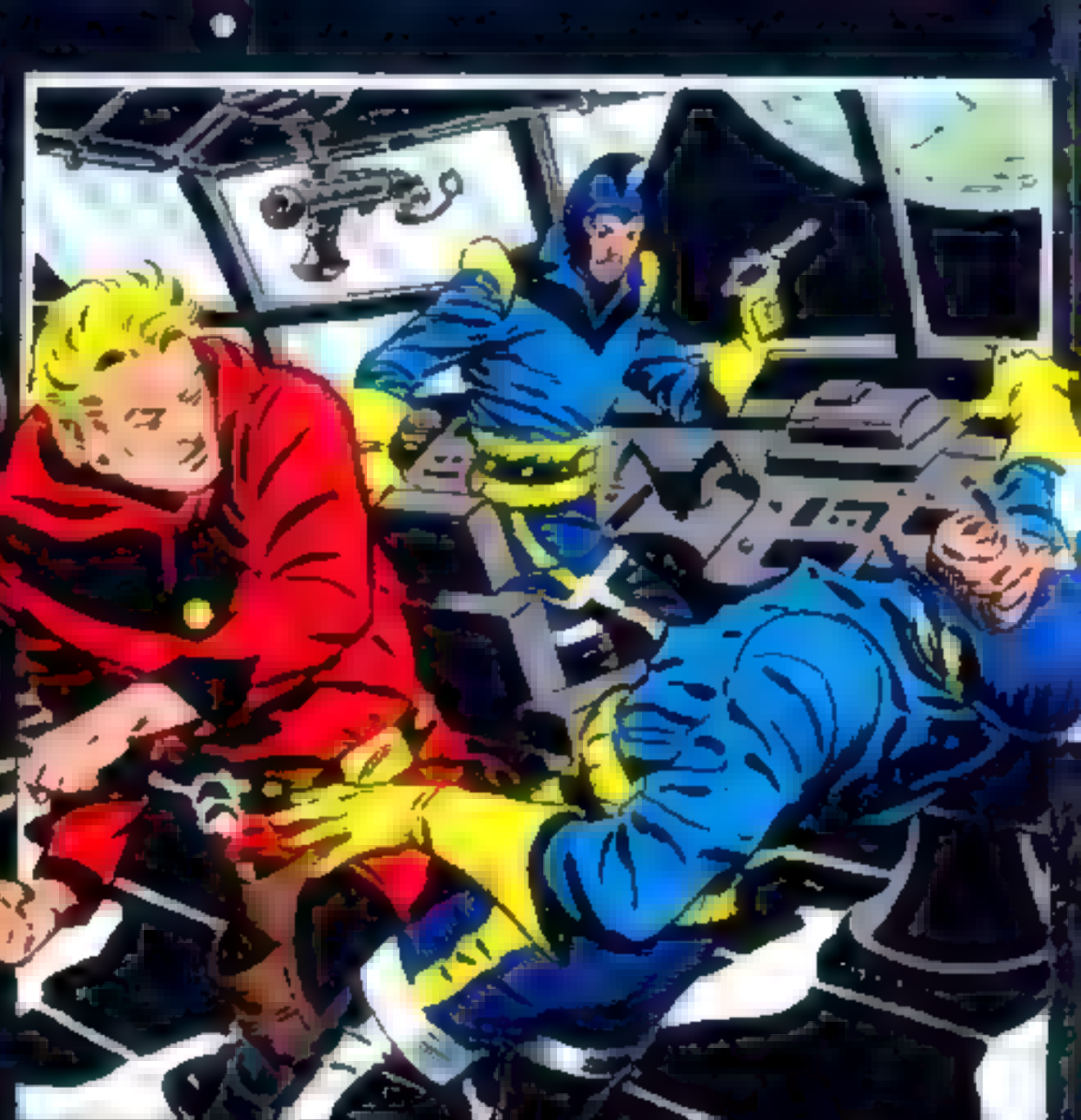
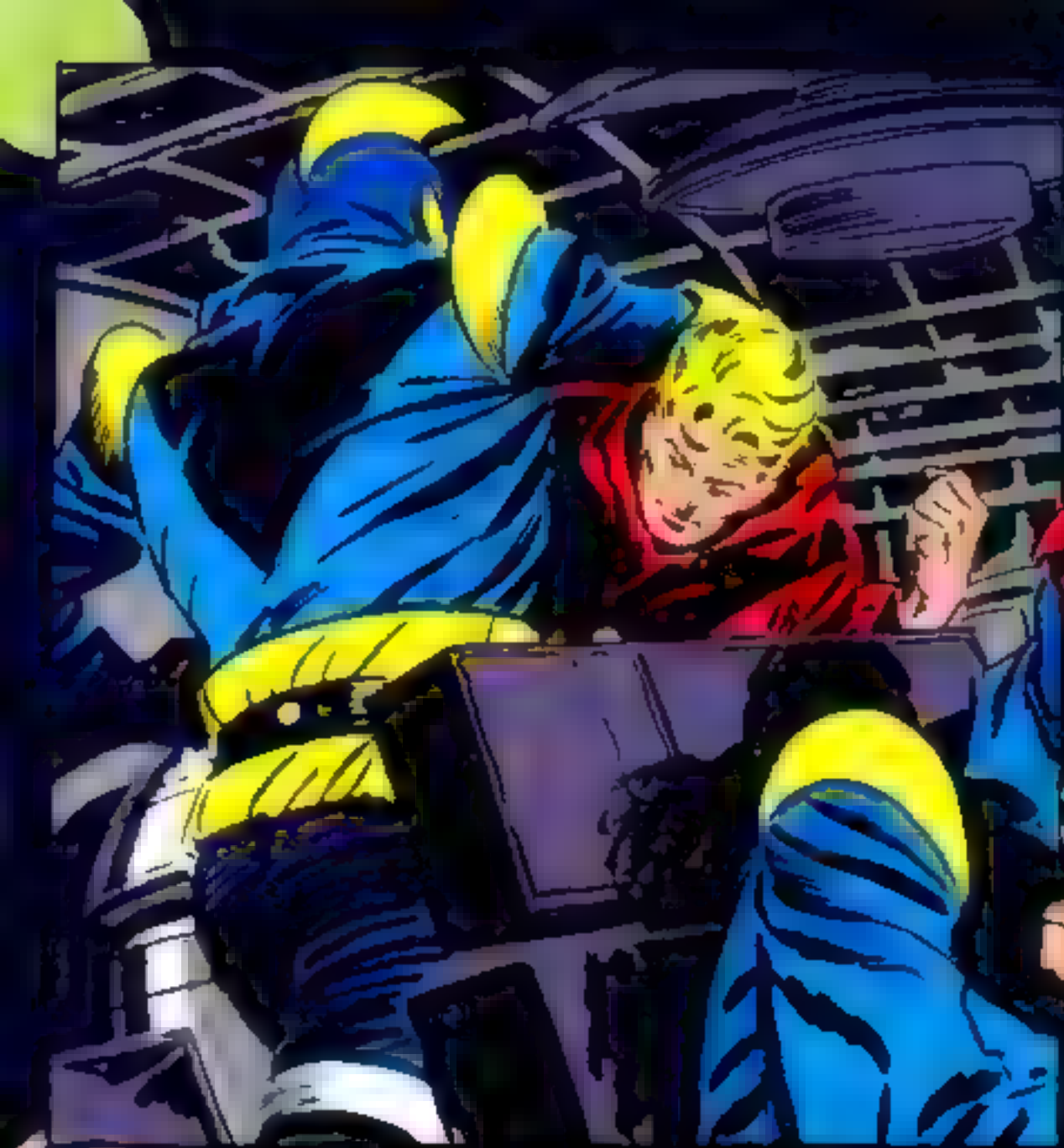
DASHING INTO THE SHIP'S  
CONTROL CENTER, FLASH  
SLAMS AND LOCKS THE  
ENTRANCE...

...IN THE  
FACES  
OF HIS  
PURSUERS.



GORDON!  
I'LL TAKE  
CARE OF  
HIM!

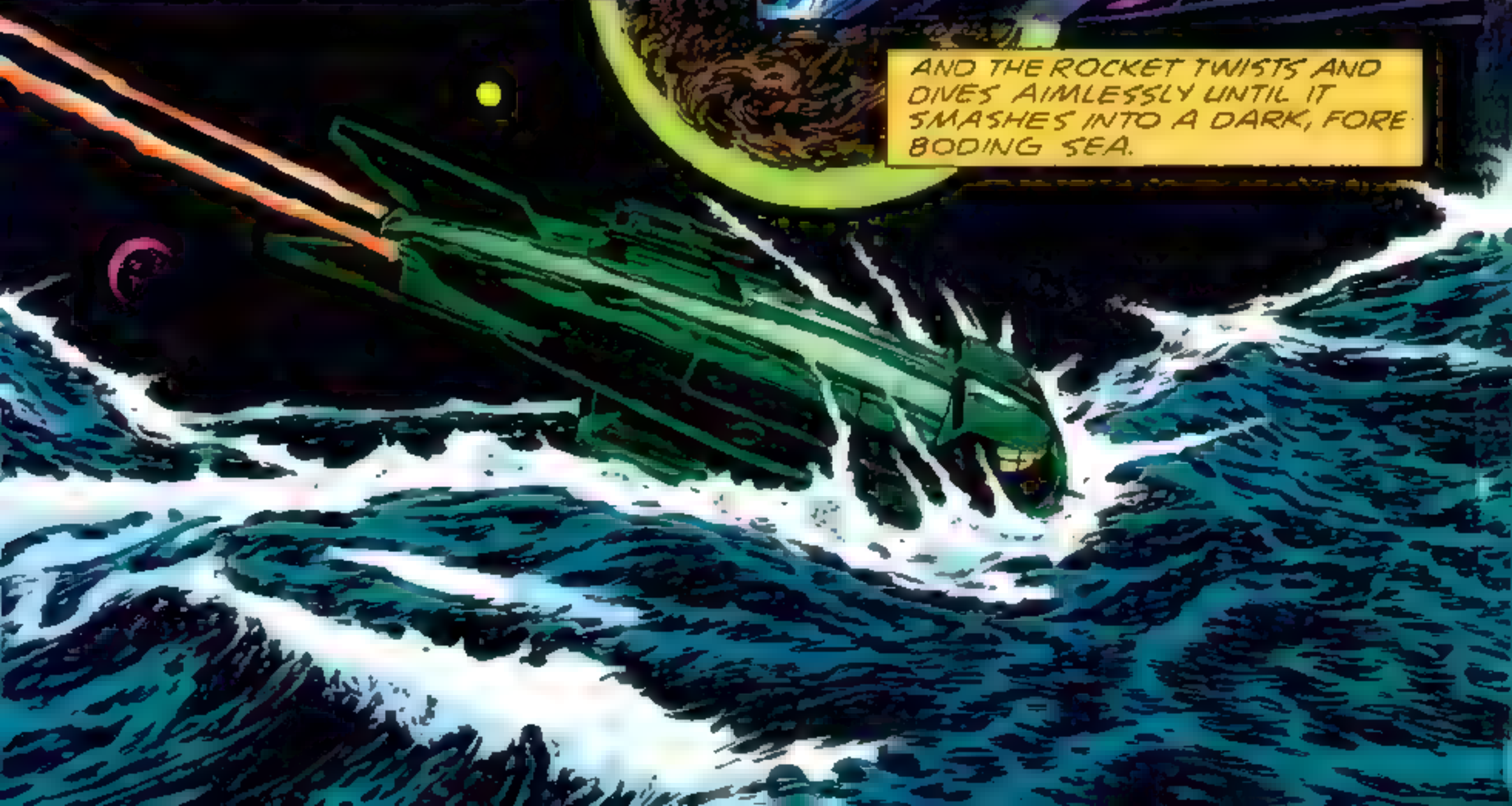




FLASH'S PLAN TO TAKE CONTROL OF AZURA'S FLAGSHIP GOES AWRY..

THE CONTROLS ARE DAMAGED!  
I CAN'T MAINTAIN STABILITY!

AND THE ROCKET TWISTS AND DIVES AIMLESSLY UNTIL IT SMASHES INTO A DARK, FOREBODING SEA.

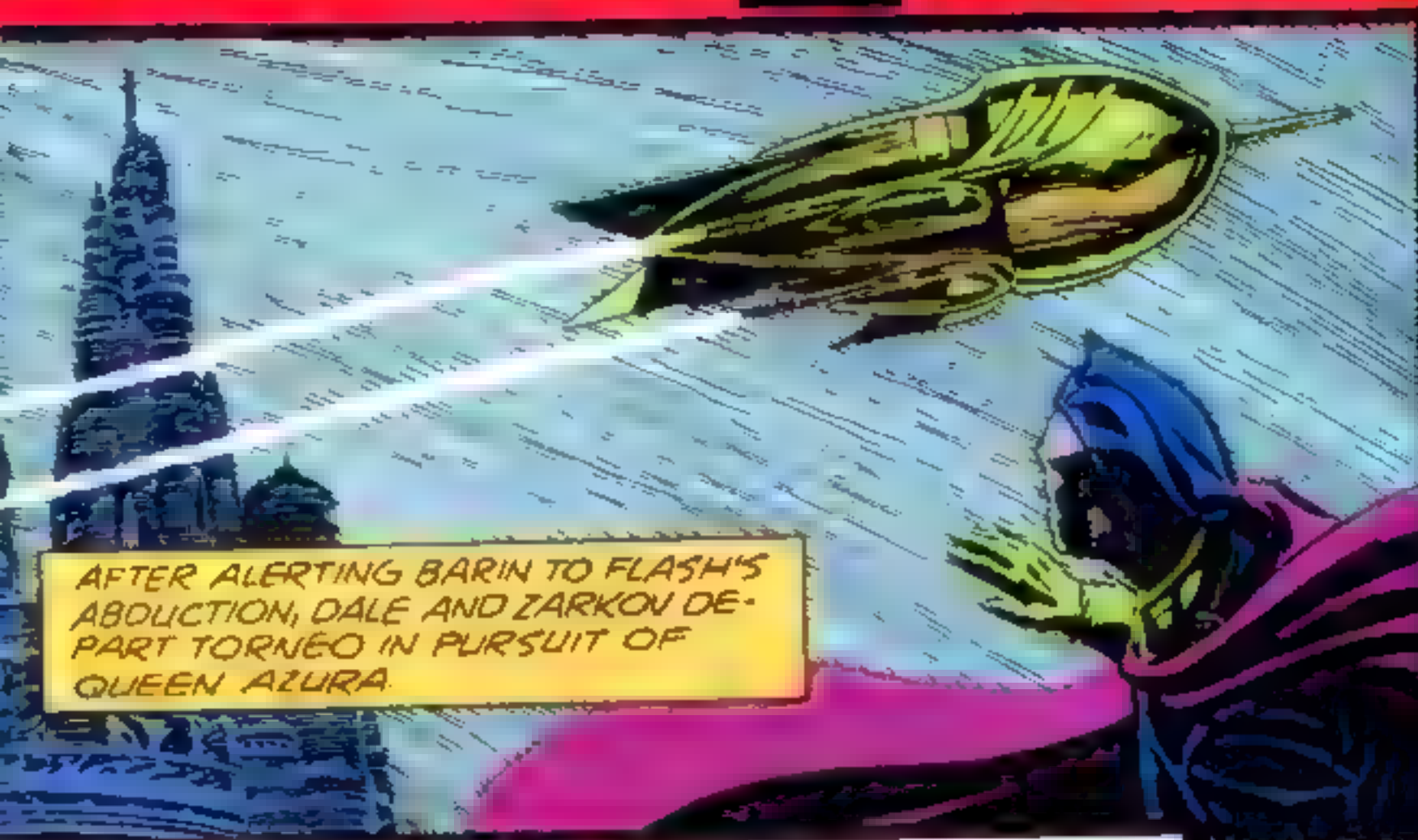




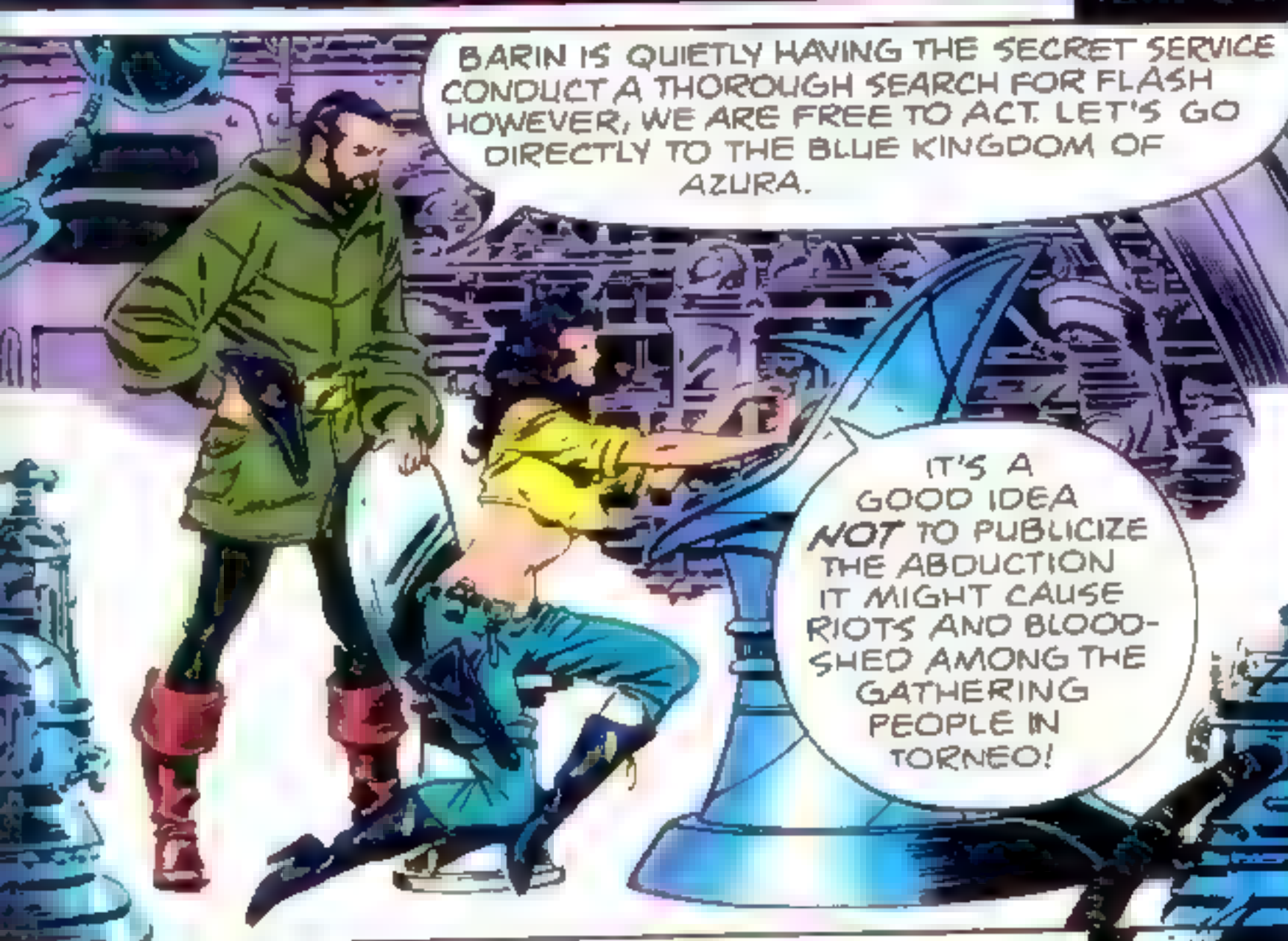
# Flash Gordon

CHAPTER TWO

PRISONERS OF MOLLUSKUM

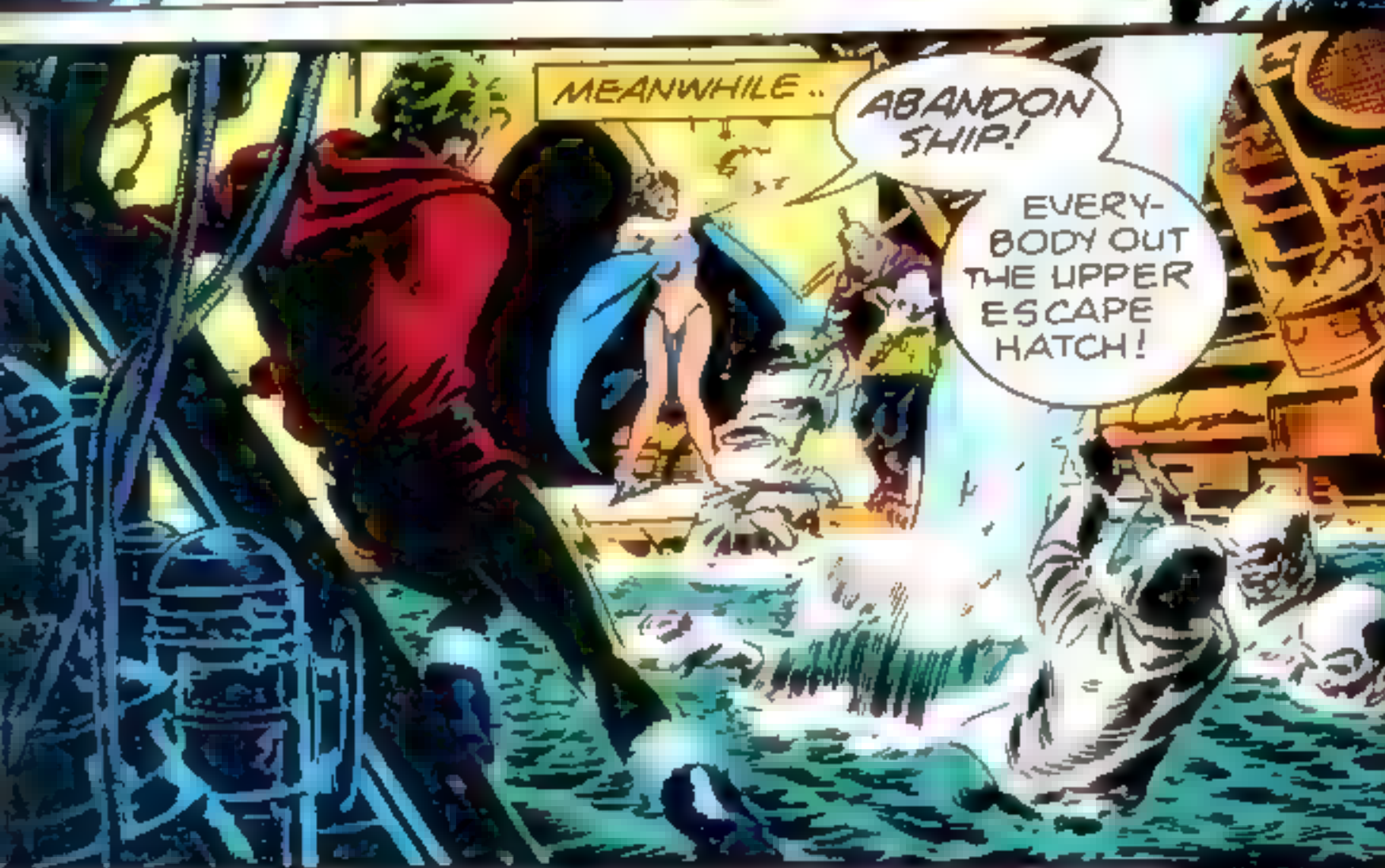


AFTER ALERTING BARIN TO FLASH'S ABDUCTION, DALE AND ZARKON DEPART TORNEO IN PURSUIT OF QUEEN AZURA.



BARIN IS QUIETLY HAVING THE SECRET SERVICE CONDUCT A THOROUGH SEARCH FOR FLASH HOWEVER, WE ARE FREE TO ACT. LET'S GO DIRECTLY TO THE BLUE KINGDOM OF AZURA.

IT'S A GOOD IDEA NOT TO PUBLICIZE THE ABDUCTION IT MIGHT CAUSE RIOTS AND BLOODSHED AMONG THE GATHERING PEOPLE IN TORNEO!



MEANWHILE...

ABANDON SHIP!

EVERYBODY OUT THE UPPER ESCAPE HATCH!



BUT THE ROCKET FILLS WITH WATER TOO RAPIDLY AND SLIPS BENEATH THE WAVES



ALL APPEARS LOST  
WHEN SUDDENLY

...A HOST OF SUBMARINE SPECTRES  
SEIZES THE DOOMED CREW!

THE AIR-BREATHERS ARE RESCUED AS A PECULIAR  
PORTABLE MACHINE GROWS BUBBLES OF LIFE-  
PRESERVING OXYGEN AROUND THEM.

WHO ARE YOU?  
WHAT IS YOUR  
INTENTION?

I AM BOLPUS OF  
THE SQUIDMEN, SURFACE-  
DWELLER. MY PERIMETER  
PATROL HAS FOUND YOU  
TRESPASSING IN TERRI-  
TORY BELONGING TO  
THE EMPIRE OF  
MOLLUSKUM

YOU WILL BE  
TAKEN BEFORE  
OUR RULER WHO  
WILL SURELY  
SUBJECT YOU ALL  
TO A PAINFUL  
DEATH FOR YOUR  
INDISCRETION.

YOU  
HAVE MY  
CONDOLENCES





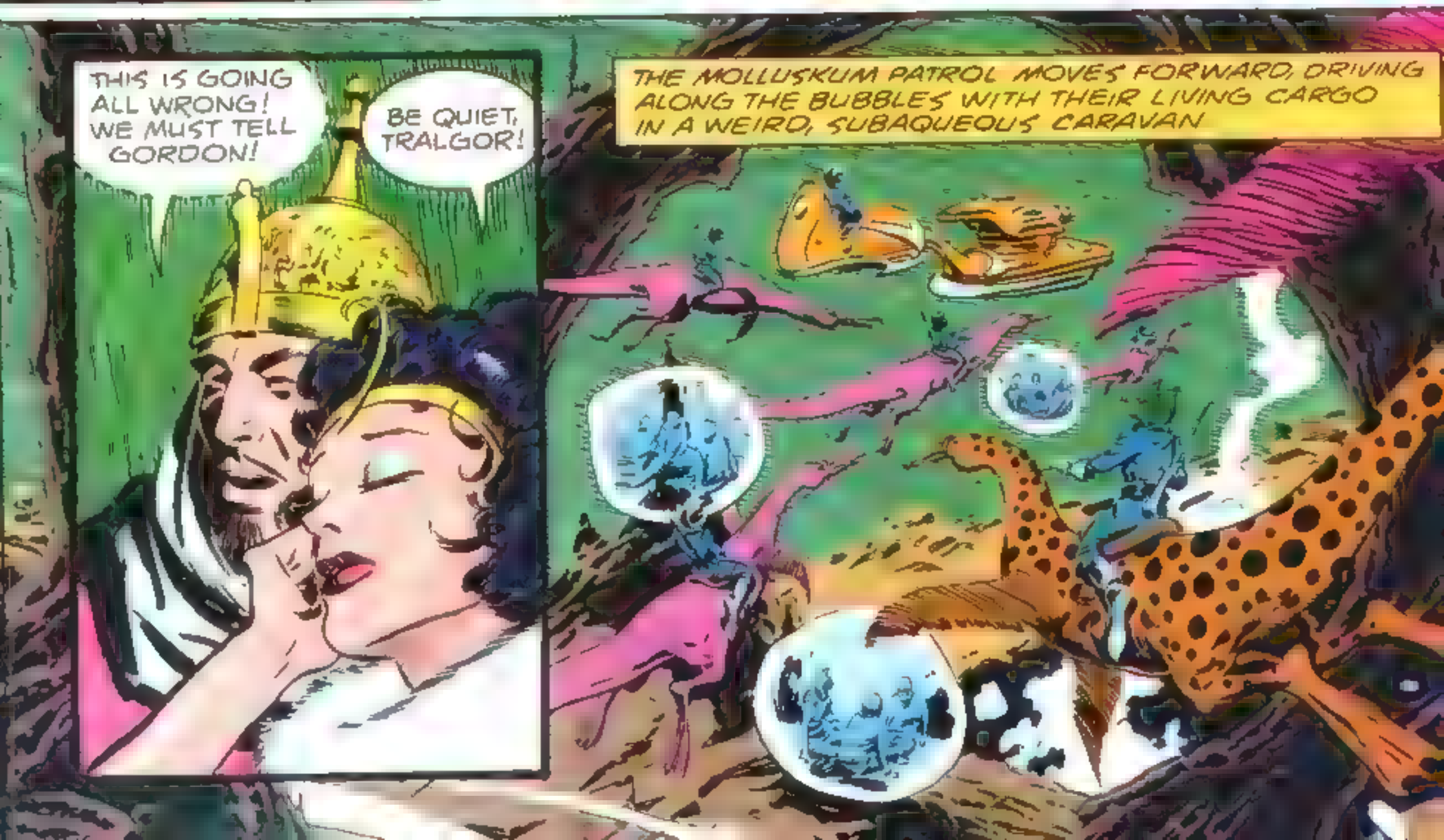
LISTEN, CREATURE:  
I AM AZURA, QUEEN  
OF THE BLUE MAGIC  
PEOPLE! I DEMAND  
CLEMENCY AND  
SAFE PASSAGE  
FOR MYSELF AND

I AM  
SORRY, BUT  
THE TYRANT KING  
OF MOLLUSKUM DOES  
NOT RECOGNIZE ANY  
ROYALTY FROM  
THE INFERIOR  
SURFACE  
WORLD

MEANWHILE, FLASH DIS-  
COVERS THAT THE BUBBLE  
ITSELF PRESENTS NO  
GREAT BARRIER

YES, YOU  
COULD EASILY  
ESCAPE OUR  
MEMBRANE. BUT  
BEAR THIS IN  
MIND BEFORE  
YOU ACT:

WE FLOAT FAR BELOW  
THE WATER'S SURFACE  
AND OUTSIDE THE  
BUBBLE, YOU WOULD  
QUICKLY DROWN. THE  
BUBBLE IS YOUR  
**PROTECTION...**  
THE SEA YOUR  
PRISON



THIS IS GOING  
ALL WRONG!  
WE MUST TELL  
GORDON!

BE QUIET,  
TRALGOR!

THE MOLLUSKUM PATROL MOVES FORWARD, DRIVING  
ALONG THE BUBBLES WITH THEIR LIVING CARGO  
IN A WEIRD, SUBAQUEOUS CARAVAN





THERE SHE IS,  
AIR-BREATHERS!  
NAUTILUM,  
CAPITAL CITY OF  
MOLLUSKUM!

AND  
THERE, POOR  
CREATURES,  
YOU WILL  
DIE

FLASH  
I'M SORRY,  
I

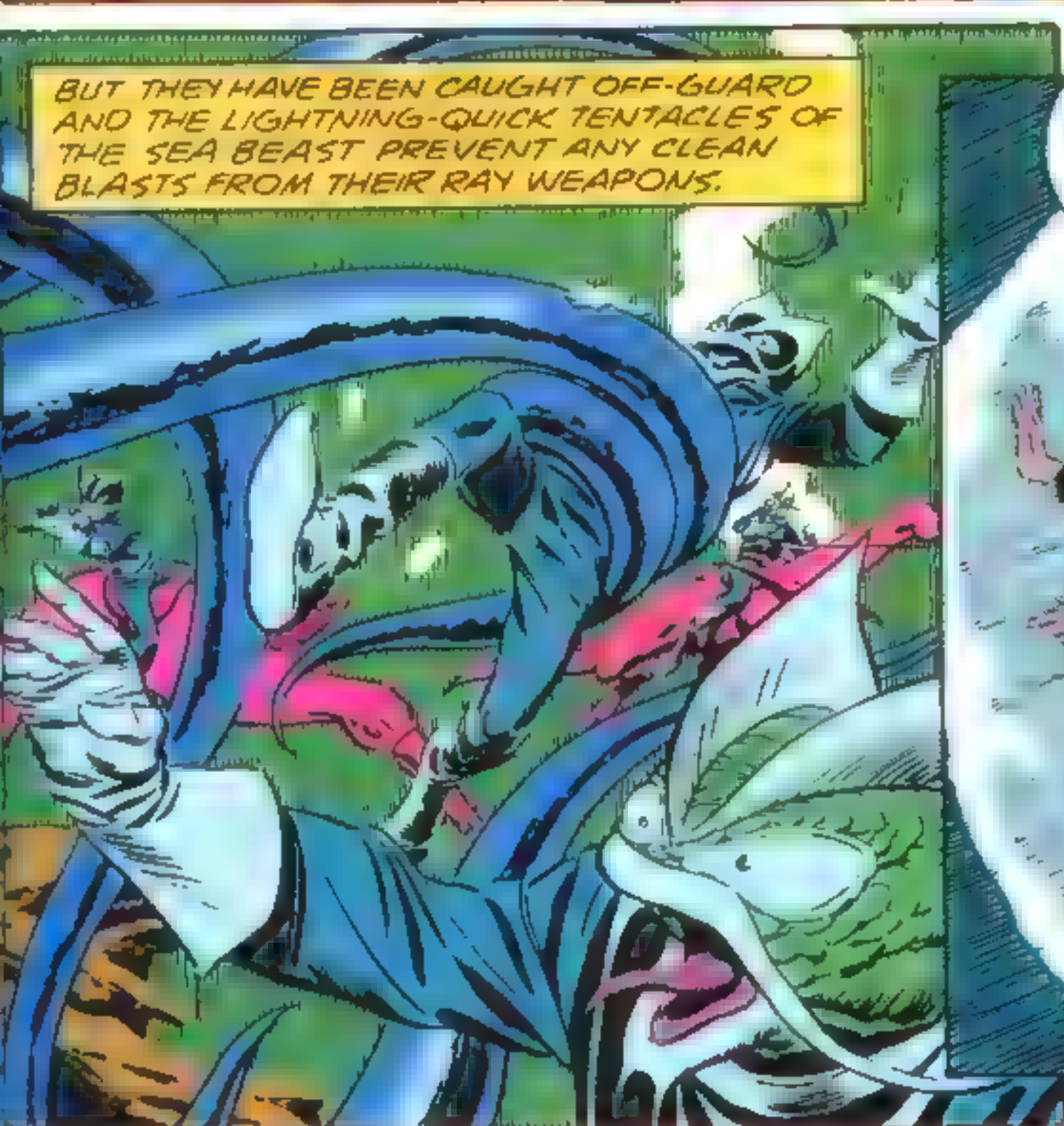
BUT BEFORE AZURA CAN CONTINUE



THE SQUIDMEN ATTEMPT TO MOUNT A DEFENSE ..



BUT THEY HAVE BEEN CAUGHT OFF-GUARD AND THE LIGHTNING-QUICK TENTACLES OF THE SEA BEAST PREVENT ANY CLEAN BLASTS FROM THEIR RAY WEAPONS.



YOUR MEN ARE ROUTED, BOLPUS! GIVE ME A CHANCE TO HELP!



VERY WELL YOU DESERVE A CHANCE TO DEFEND YOURSELF BEFORE DYING

PUSH YOUR WAY THROUGH THE MEMBRANE. TRUST ME!



FLASH DOES AS HE IS TOLD AND BOLPUS QUICKLY MANUFACTURES A BUBBLE HELMET OVER HIS HEAD.

YOU ARE FREE TO ATTACK, SURFACE-DWELLER





FLASH RUSHES THE  
SEA BEAST, PAST THE  
FLEEING SQUIDMEN.



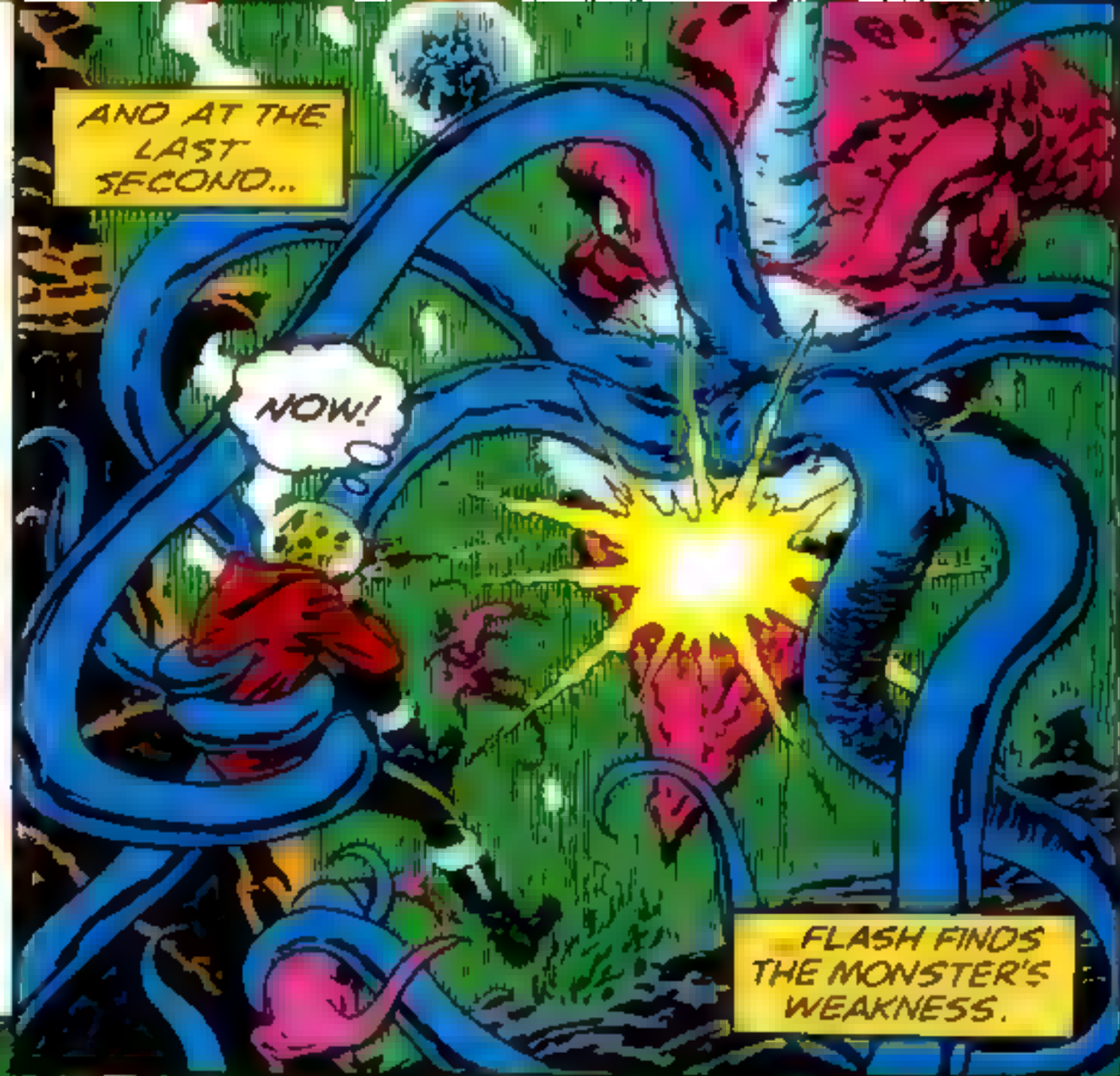
FLASH FIRES ON THE MON-  
STER, BUT THE RAY BLAST  
GLANCES OFF THE  
CREATURE'S HIDE



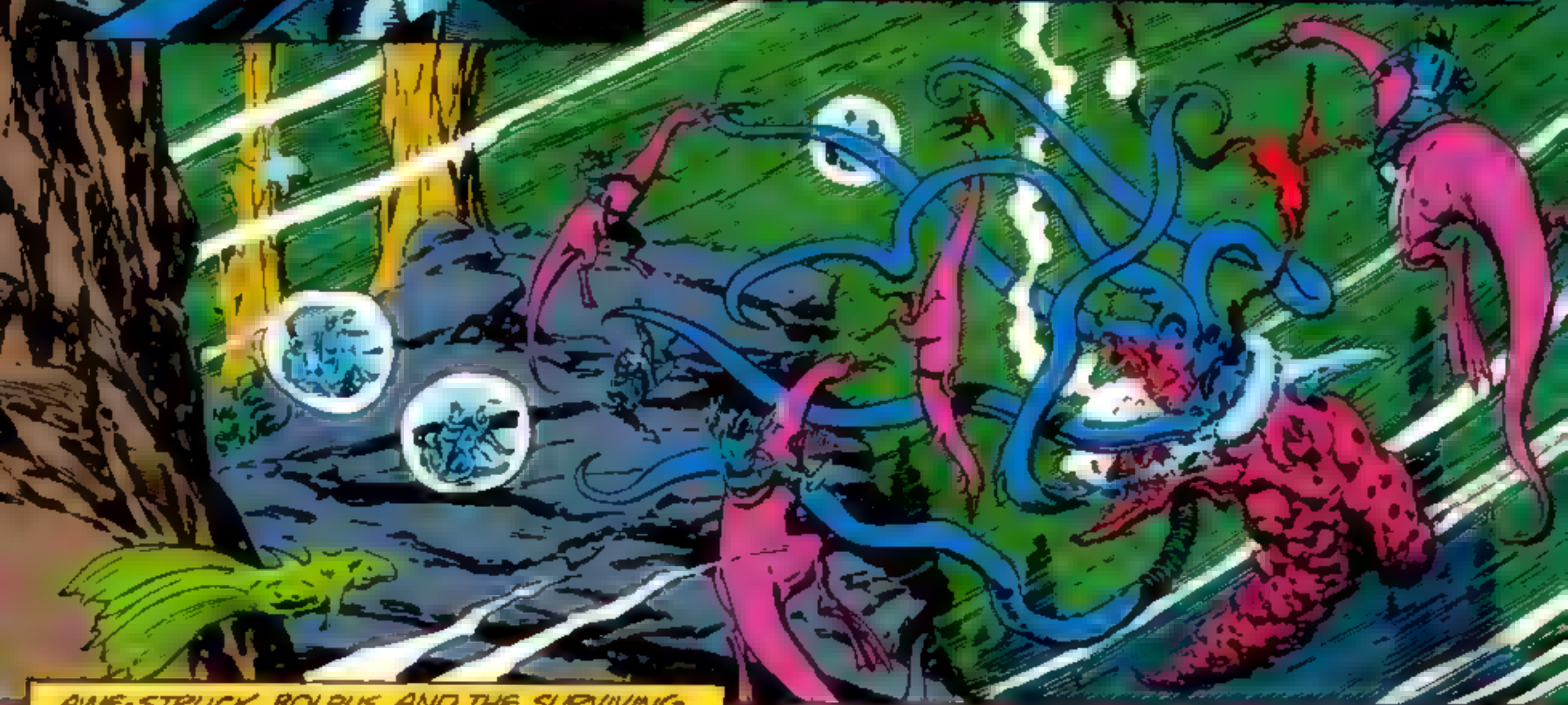
MUST  
GET  
CLOSER







FLASH FINDS  
THE MONSTER'S  
WEAKNESS.

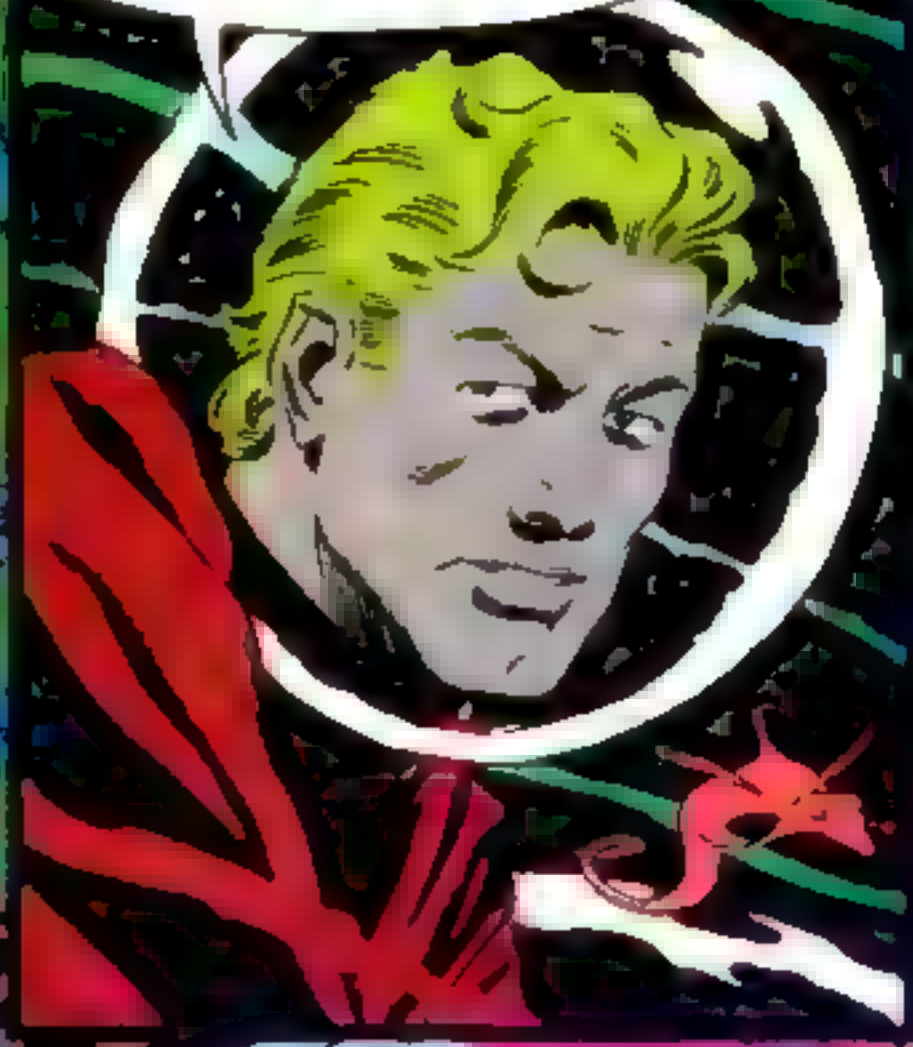


AWE-STRUCK, BOLPUS AND THE SURVIVING  
SQUIDMEN GATHER AROUND THE TRIUM-  
PHANT FLASH.

NO OTHER SINGLE  
MAN HAS EVER  
SLAIN A  
GASTROCLOPS!

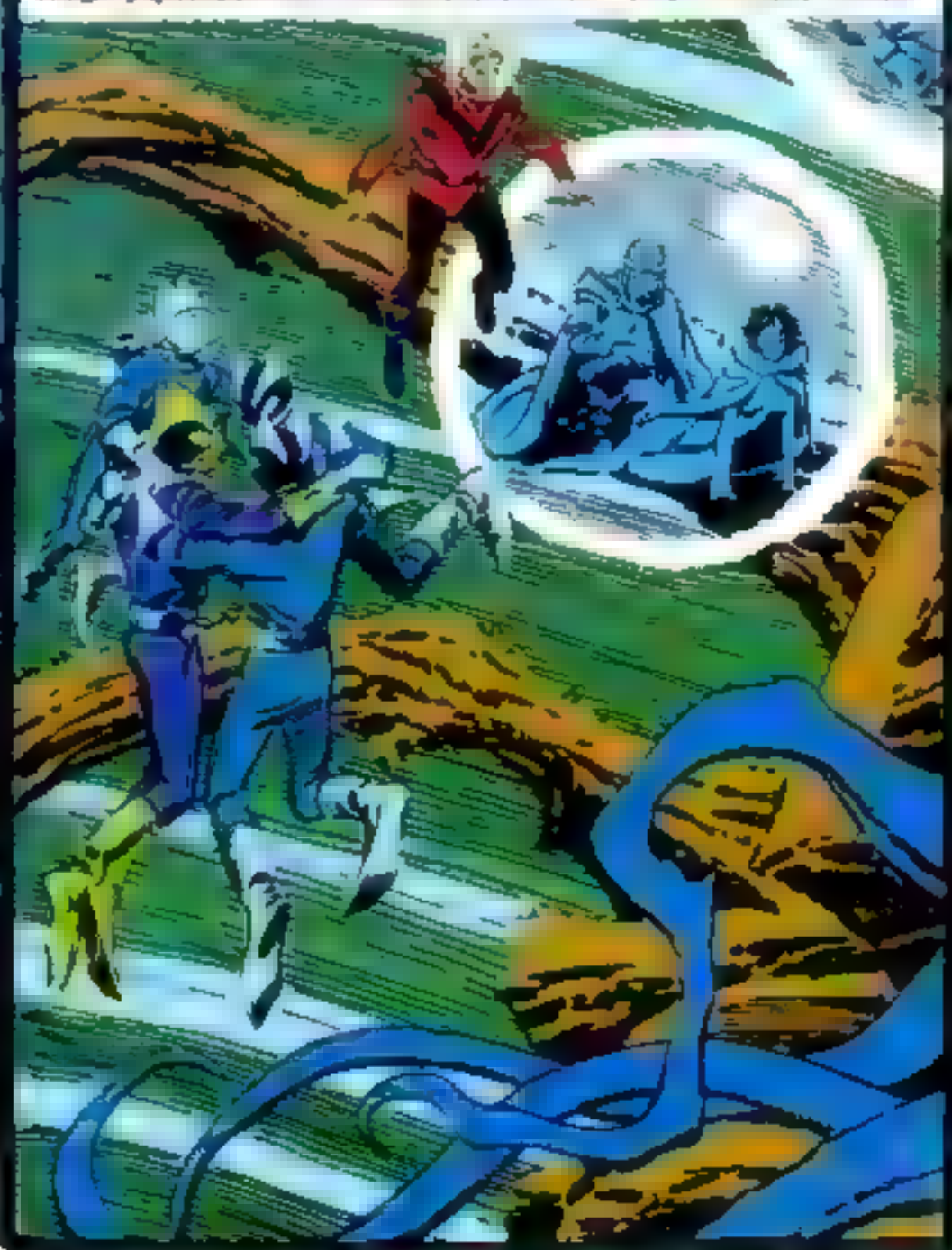
WE OWE  
YOU OUR LIVES  
WHAT IS YOUR  
NAME, BRAVE  
WARRIOR?

I AM FLASH GORDON..  
AND IF YOU MEAN WHAT  
YOU SAY, THEN **SHOW**  
US YOUR GRATITUDE.





THE SQUIDMEN MOVE AWAY AND CONFER



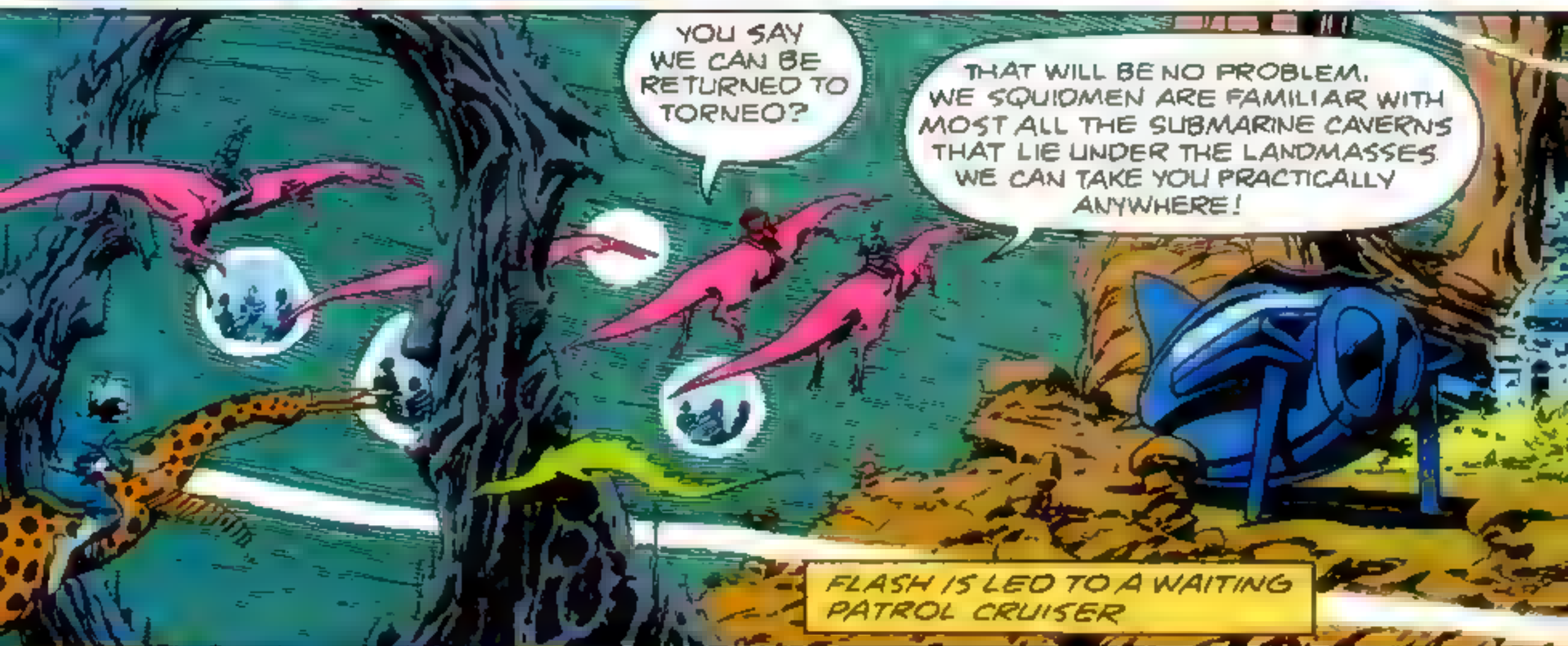
MY MEN AND I ARE IN ACCORD, FLASH GORDON: YOU AND YOUR FELLOWS DO NOT DESERVE TO DIE AT THE HANDS OF OUR DESPISED TYRANT KING. HE WILL BE TOLD THAT YOU WERE ALL LOST TO THE GASTRO-CLOPS.

WE GIVE YOU AND YOUR FELLOWS YOUR LIVES IN RETURN FOR OURS.



YOU SAY WE CAN BE RETURNED TO TORNEO?

THAT WILL BE NO PROBLEM. WE SQUIDMEN ARE FAMILIAR WITH MOST ALL THE SUBMARINE CAVERNS THAT LIE UNDER THE LANDMASSES. WE CAN TAKE YOU PRACTICALLY ANYWHERE!

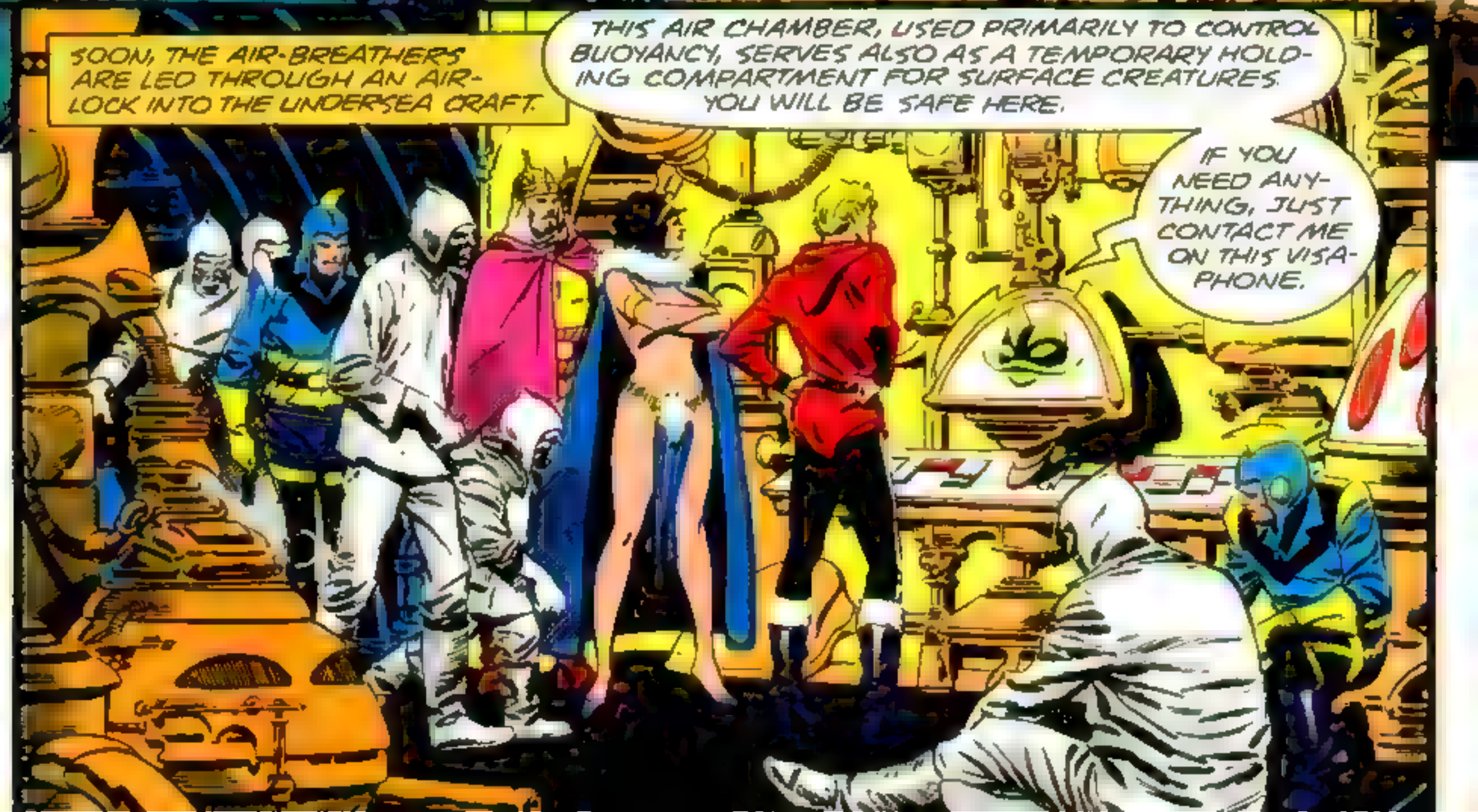


FLASH IS LED TO A WAITING PATROL CRUISER

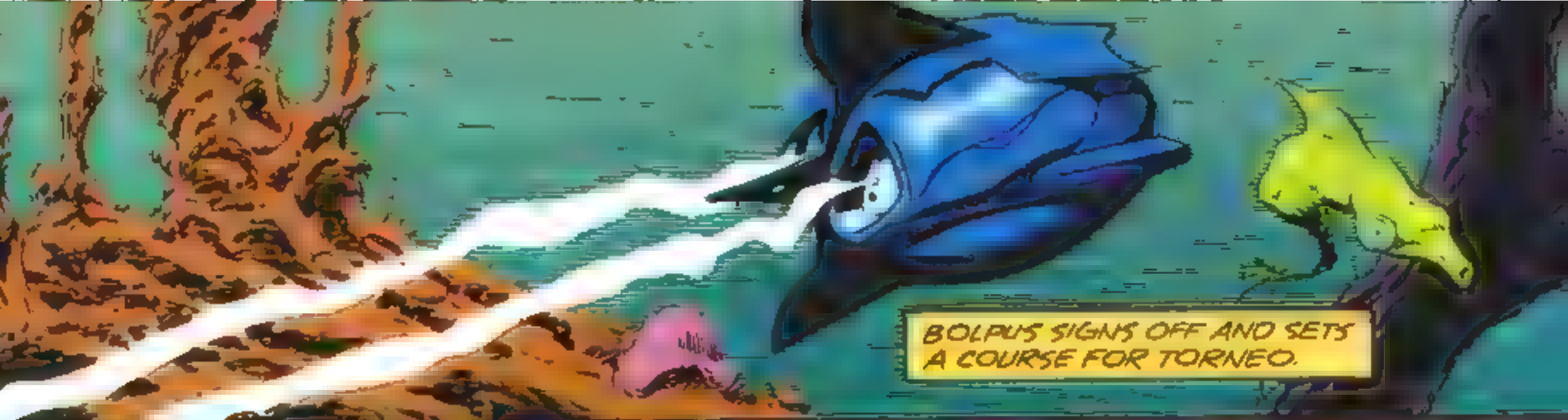
SOON, THE AIR-BREATHERS ARE LED THROUGH AN AIR-LOCK INTO THE UNDERSEA CRAFT.

THIS AIR CHAMBER, USED PRIMARILY TO CONTROL BUOYANCY, SERVES ALSO AS A TEMPORARY HOLDING COMPARTMENT FOR SURFACE CREATURES. YOU WILL BE SAFE HERE.

IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, JUST CONTACT ME ON THIS VISA-PHONE.







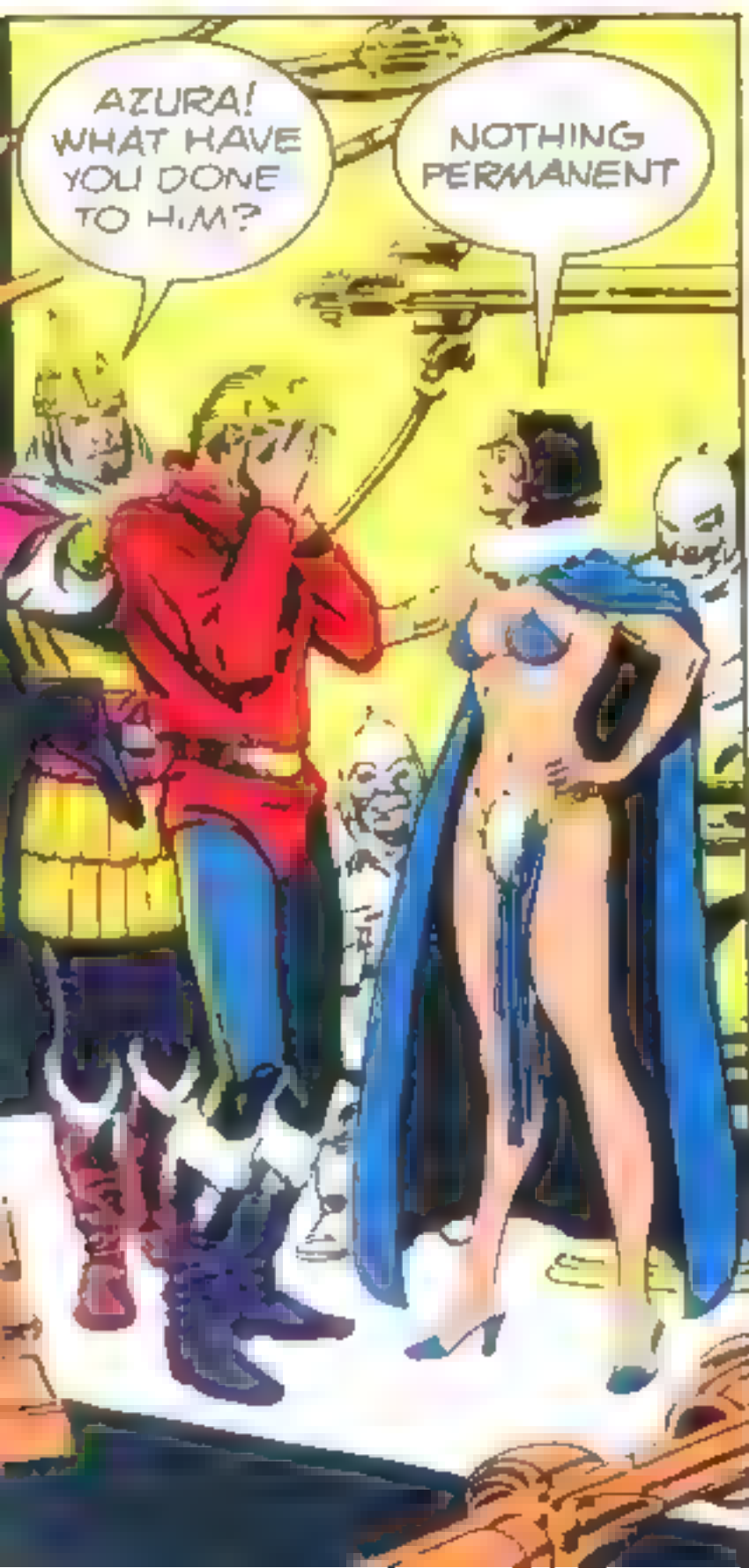
BOLPUS SIGNS OFF AND SETS  
A COURSE FOR TORNEO.

FLASH, CONFIDENT THAT HIS NEWFOUND  
STATUS AMONG THE SQUIDMEN WILL  
PROTECT HIM, TURNS TO AZURA.

WELL, AZURA, THE PLAYING  
FIELD HAS BEEN LEVELED A  
BIT... NOW TELL ME,  
WHAT



BUT HE IS CARELESS  
AND FORGETS  
WHY AZURA IS  
CALLED THE  
WITCH QUEEN!



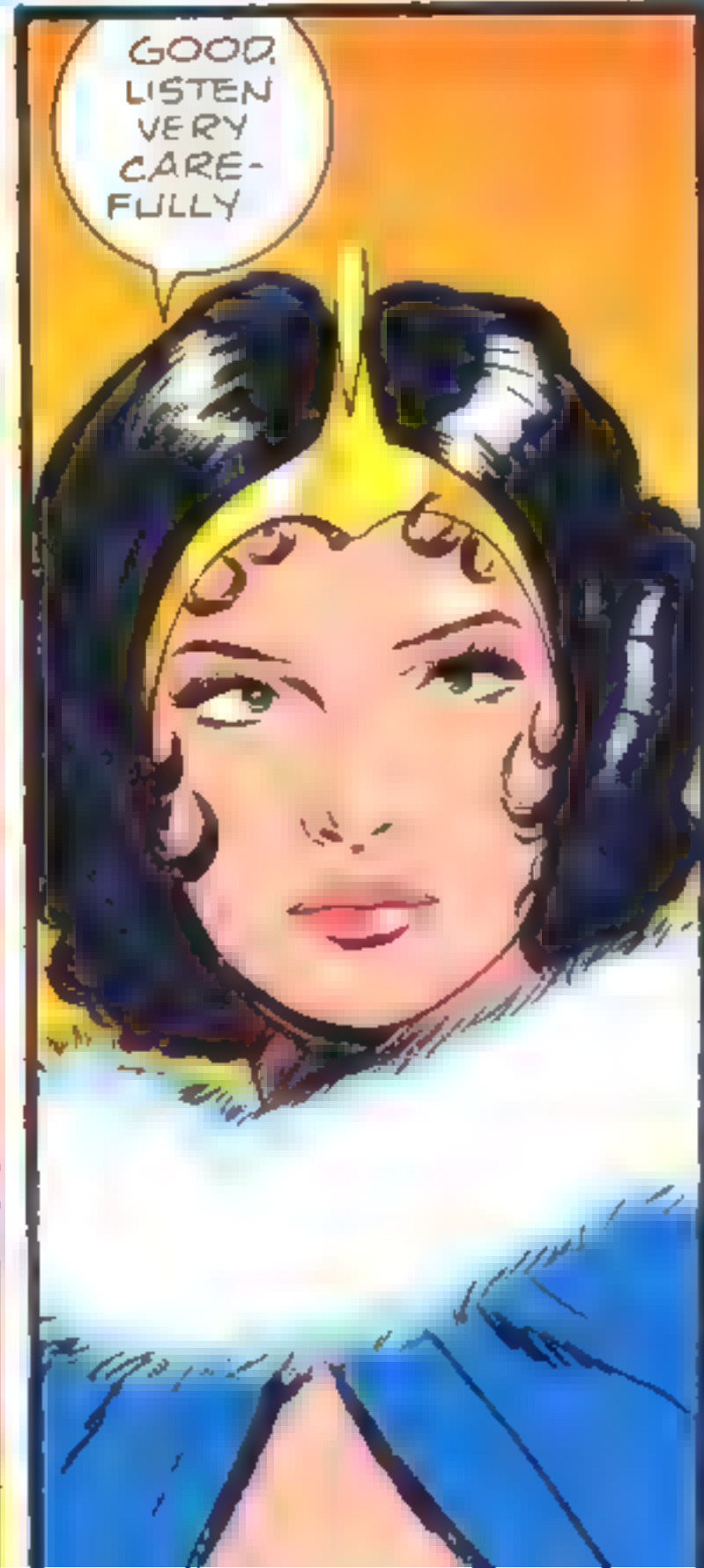
AZURA!  
WHAT HAVE  
YOU DONE  
TO HIM?

NOTHING  
PERMANENT



FLASH  
GORDON, YOU  
HEAR AND  
OBEY YOUR  
QUEEN?

YES,  
AZURA.



GOOD,  
LISTEN  
VERY  
CARE-  
FULLY



MOMENTS LATER

BOLPUS, AZURA AND I  
HAVE DECIDED THAT IT  
WOULD MAKE MORE SENSE  
IF I SAW HER SAFELY BACK  
TO THE BLUE MAGIC KING-  
DOM. CAN YOU CHANGE  
COURSE FOR SYK?

CERTAINLY,  
FLASH AS YOU  
WISH..

CHANGE COURSE  
TO THE BLUE  
MOUNTAIN  
KINGDOM

NEVER TRY TO  
UNDERSTAND THE  
MIND OF A SUR-  
FACE DWELLER

THE MOLLUSKUM CRAFT PLUSHES THROUGH LEAGUES  
OF OCEAN BEFORE  
ENTERING A  
VAST NETWORK  
OF UNDERSEA  
CAVERNS

EVENTUALLY, IT GLIDES UPWARD..

..AND SURFACES ON  
A WILDERNESS POOL.





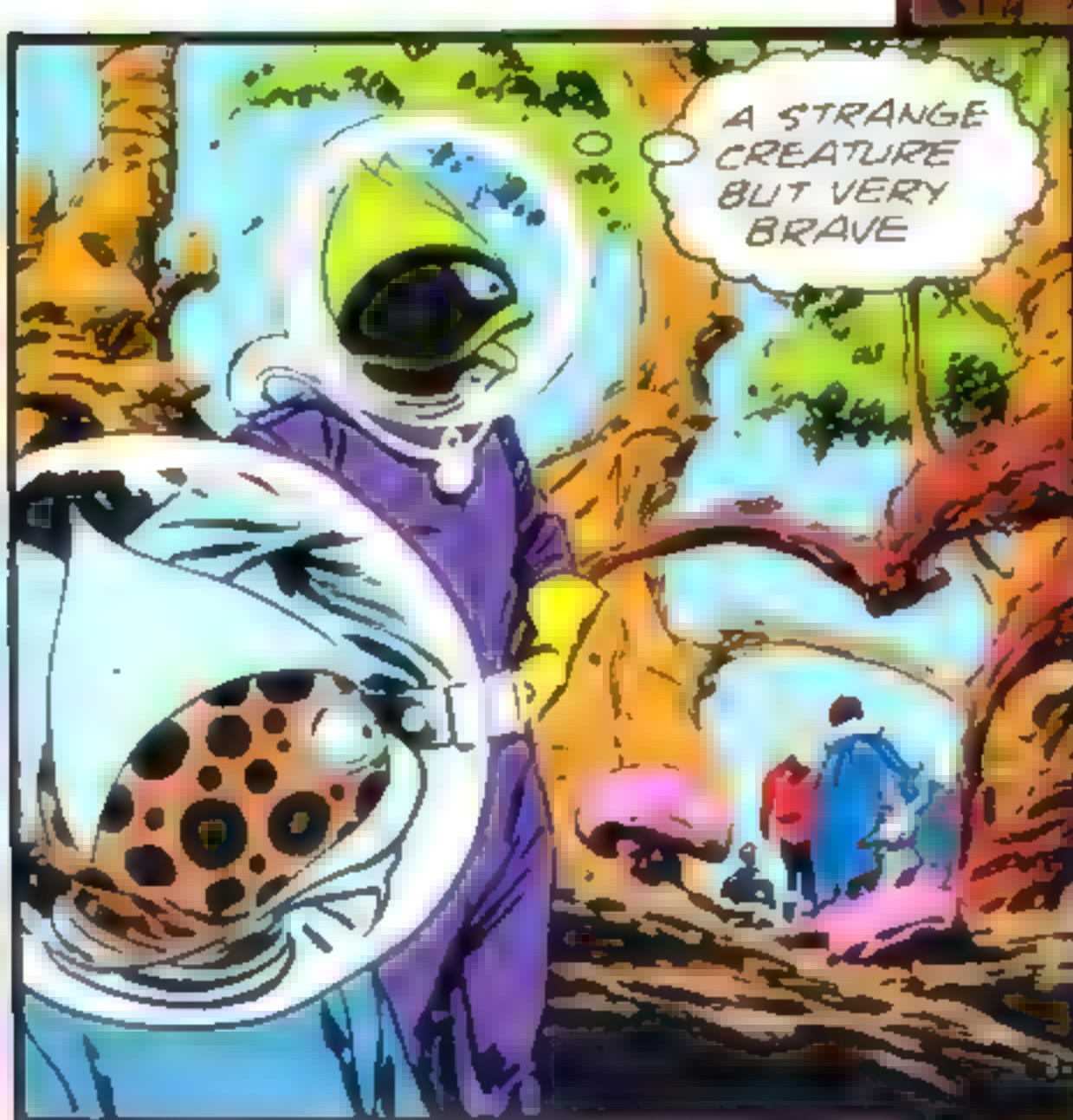
THIS IS AS CLOSE AS WE DARE COME SYK IS THREE HOURS MARCH DUE NORTH

THANK YOU AGAIN, FLASH GORDON THIS PATROL WILL ALWAYS STAND READY TO ASSIST YOU



FLASH STRIDES INDIFFERENTLY BY BOLPUS

VERY WELL



A STRANGE CREATURE BUT VERY BRAVE



AZURA AND HER ENTourage MARCH DEEP INTO THE EMERALD JUNGLE, AND THE SPELLBOUND FLASH OBEDIENTLY KEEPS PACE

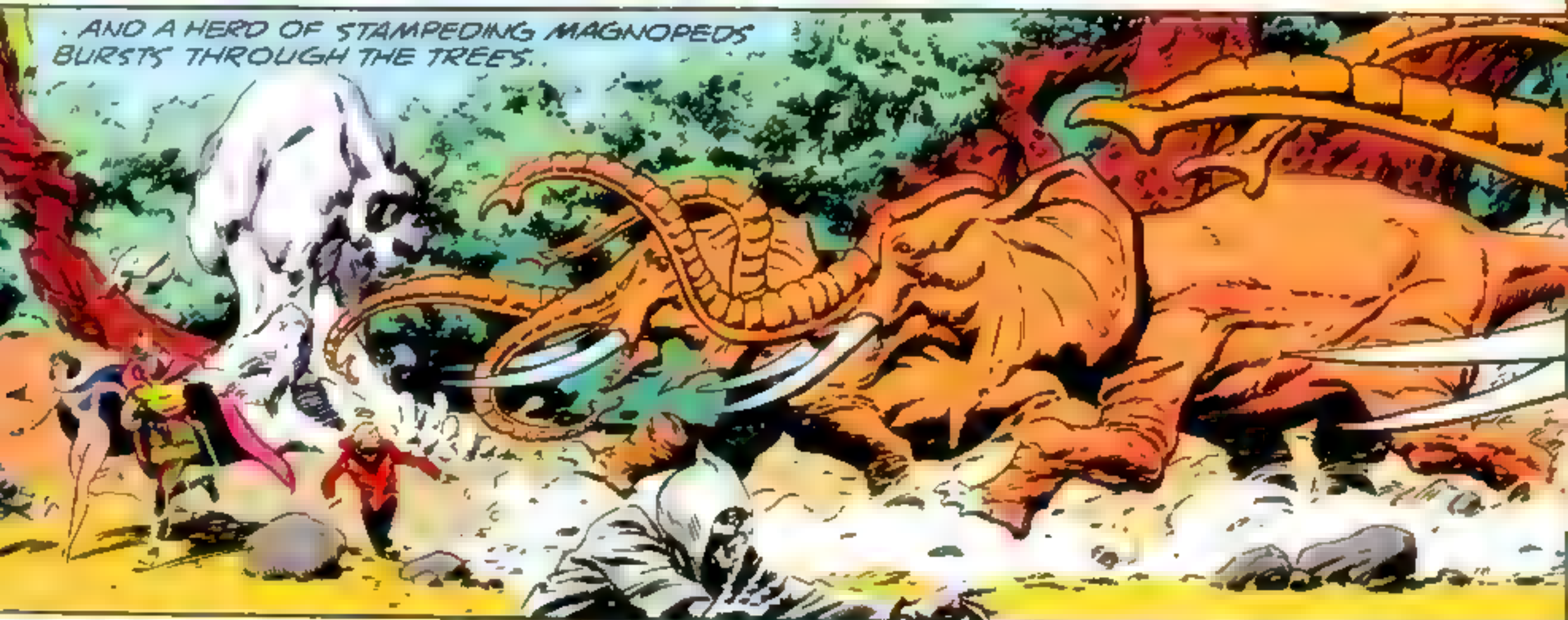


SUDDENLY THE GROUND  
BEGINS TO TREMBLE



THE TREMBLE GROWS TO A QUIAKE...

AND A HERD OF STAMPEDING MAGNOPEDS  
BURSTS THROUGH THE TREES.



AZURA SLIPS AND FALLS..



PICKING UP A ROCK, FLASH CHARGES THE LEAD  
MAGNOPED.



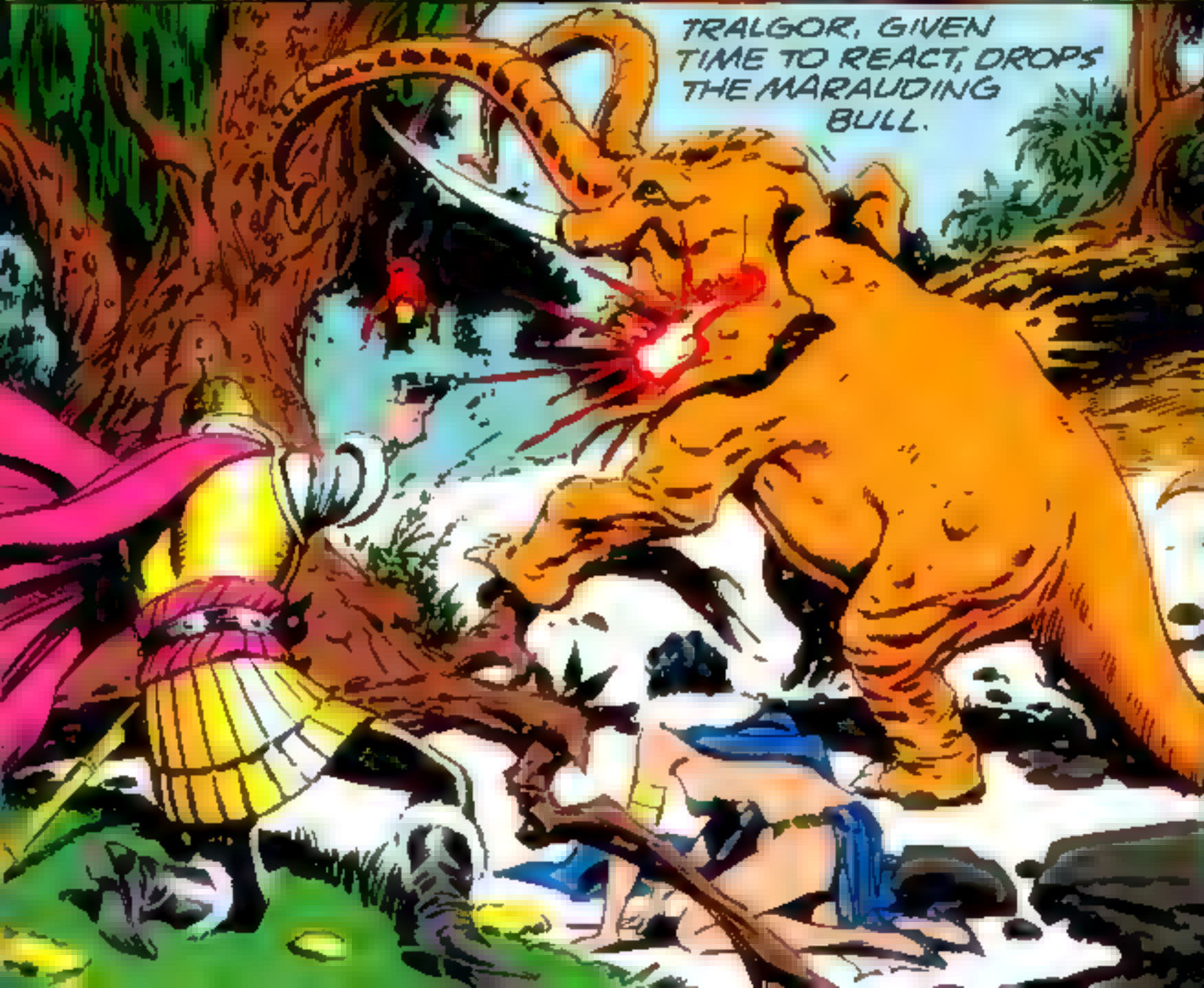




AZURA IS SPARED, BUT FLASH IS  
DASHED AGAINST A TREE.



TRALGOR, GIVEN  
TIME TO REACT, DROPS  
THE MARAUDING  
BULL.





THE STAMPEDE PASSES AND, AS SHE RUSHES TO THE UNCONSCIOUS EARTHMAN, AZURA'S RESERVE DISSOLVES.

OH, FLASH!

AFTER A MAKESHIFT LITTER IS MADE, THE PROCESSION CONTINUES ON...

..TOWARDS SYK

HOW CAN YOU CONTINUE TO TREAT GORDON SO UNJUSTLY? HE'S SAVED YOUR LIFE TWICE!

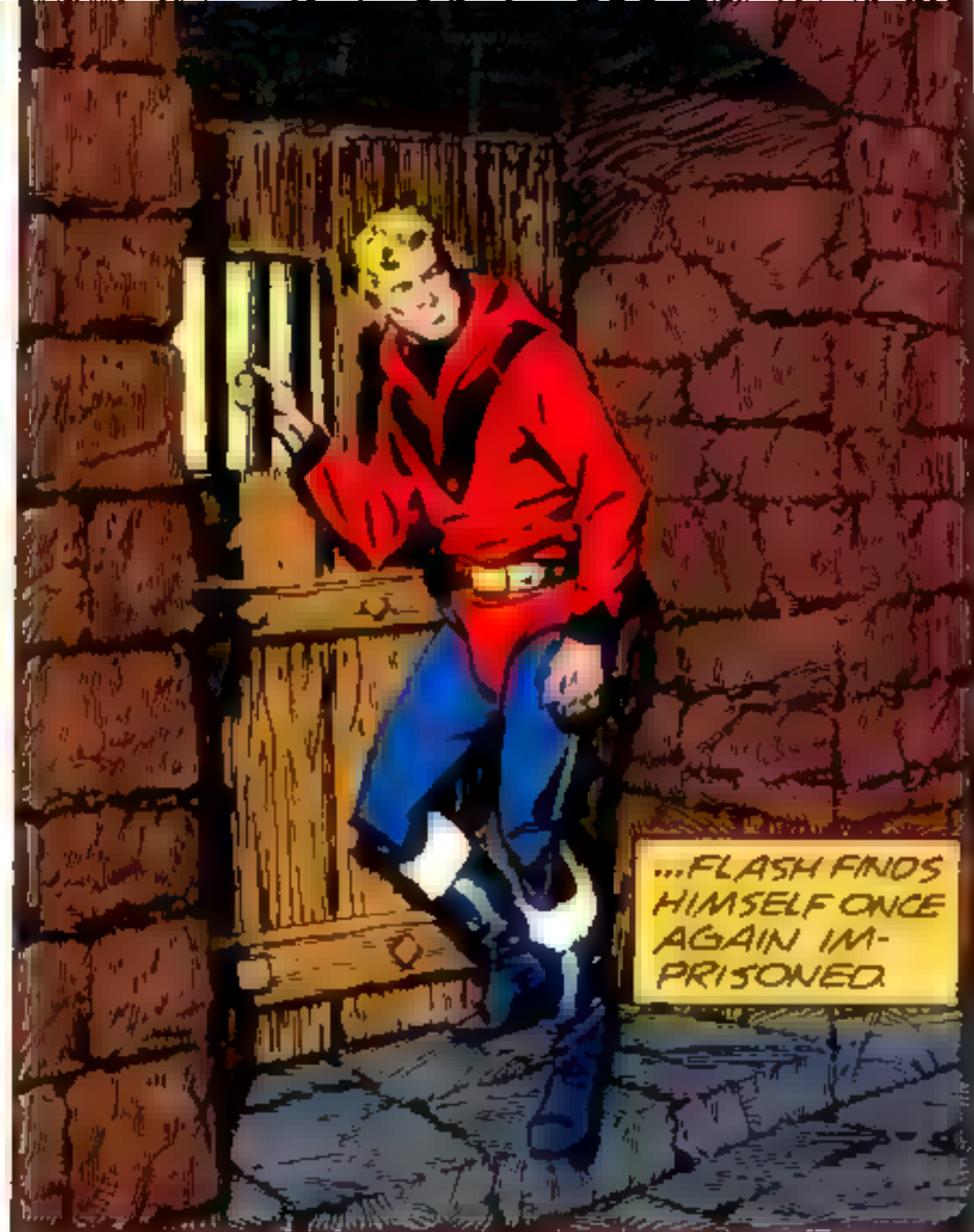
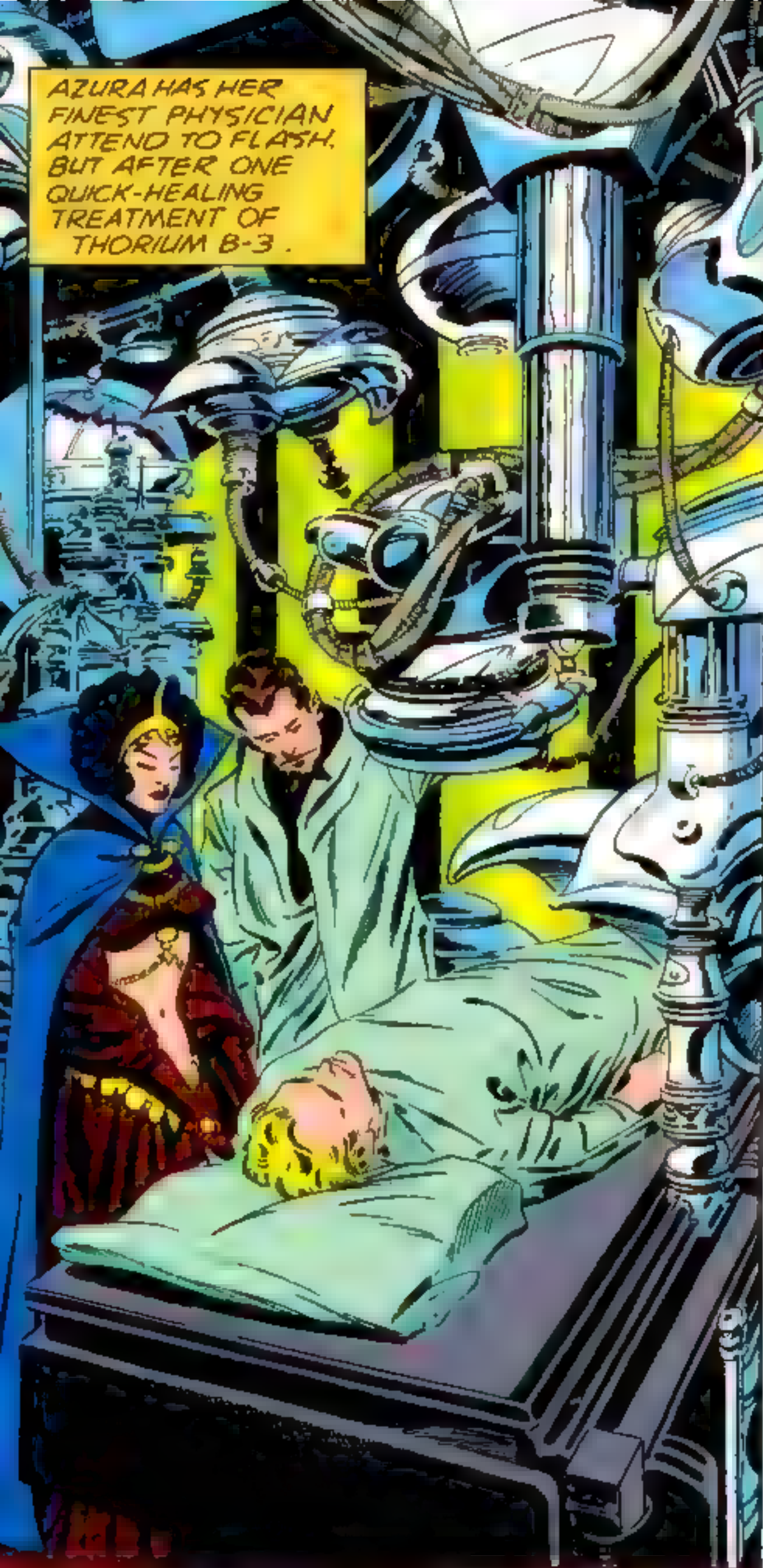
A QUEEN CANNOT LET THE FATE OF ONE INDIVIDUAL COMPROMISE AN ENTIRE KINGDOM YOU KNOW WHY I DO THIS.

TRALGOR FALLS SILENT AND BEFORE LONG THE FOREST GIVES WAY TO ROCKY HIGHLANDS..

...AND AZURA'S CAPITAL-FORTRESS..  
SYK.

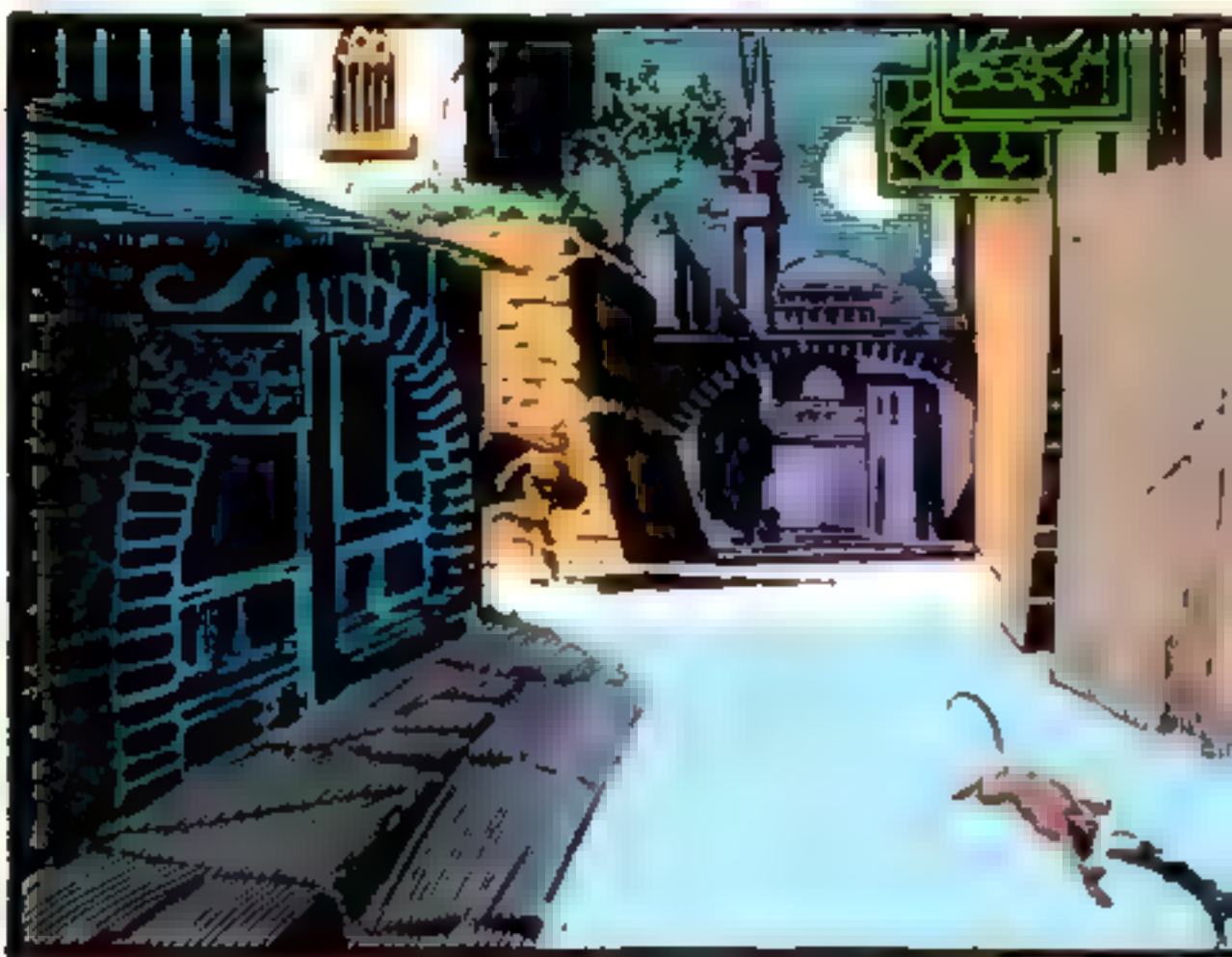


AZURA HAS HER  
FINEST PHYSICIAN  
ATTEND TO FLASH,  
BUT AFTER ONE  
QUICK-HEALING  
TREATMENT OF  
THORIUM B-3.



...FLASH FINDS  
HIMSELF ONCE  
AGAIN IM-  
PRISONED.

LATER THAT NIGHT..



TRALGOR FUR-  
TIVELY ENTERS  
FLASH'S CHAMBER

WHO  
?

KEEP  
YOUR VOICE  
DOWN,  
FLASH.



I MUST  
APOLOGIZE FOR  
MY QUEEN'S  
TREATMENT OF  
YOU. SHE HAS  
HER REASONS,  
HOWEVER MIS-  
GUIDED.

NOW  
I MUST  
DISOBEY  
HER

TRALGOR PULLS  
SOMETHING  
FROM UNDER  
HIS CAPE.

DO YOU SEE  
THIS, FLASH  
GORDON?  
IT'S YOURS.  
TAKE IT.





IT'S A CAP  
A BOY'S  
CAP FROM  
EARTH!

I CAME BY  
THAT CAP IN  
BATTLE... A LONG,  
LONG TIME AGO.  
I'VE KEPT IT  
AS A RE-  
MINDER  
OF  
TRUE  
HERO-  
ISM.

LISTEN, FLASH  
GORDON... THIS IS  
**IMPORTANT**. KEEP  
THE CAP AND  
USE IT TO  
**REMEMBER**.

**REMEMBER...**  
AND THE REASONS  
FOR AZURA'S ACTIONS  
WILL BECOME CLEAR.  
YOU WILL COME TO  
UNDERSTAND AND  
**BELIEVE**.

THAT  
IS ALL I  
DARE TELL  
YOU.

YOU MUST TRUST  
ME. ALL OUR  
BEST INTERESTS  
ARE AT  
STAKE.

COME...

SYK IS HONEYCOMBED WITH HIDDEN  
PASSAGEWAYS. AS AZURA'S CLOSEST  
ADVISOR, I AM ONE OF THE FEW  
VERSED IN THEIR SECRETS.

TRALGOR'S  
TORTUROUS  
PATH EVENTU-  
ALLY LEADS  
TO A HIDDEN  
ROCKET.

HERE... A ONE-MAN FLIER I SELECTED. IT  
MAY BE SMALL ENOUGH TO ESCAPE THE  
NOTICE OF OUR AIR PATROLS

DO YOU  
FEEL WELL  
ENOUGH  
TO FLY?

JUST  
LET ME AT  
THOSE  
CONTROLS



BUT EVEN IF YOU DO ESCAPE  
BLUE MAGIC AIRSPACE, YOU  
MUST STILL PASS OVER OUR  
DANGEROUS NEIGHBOR, THE  
FIRE KINGDOM, IF YOU ARE  
TO REACH SAFETY.

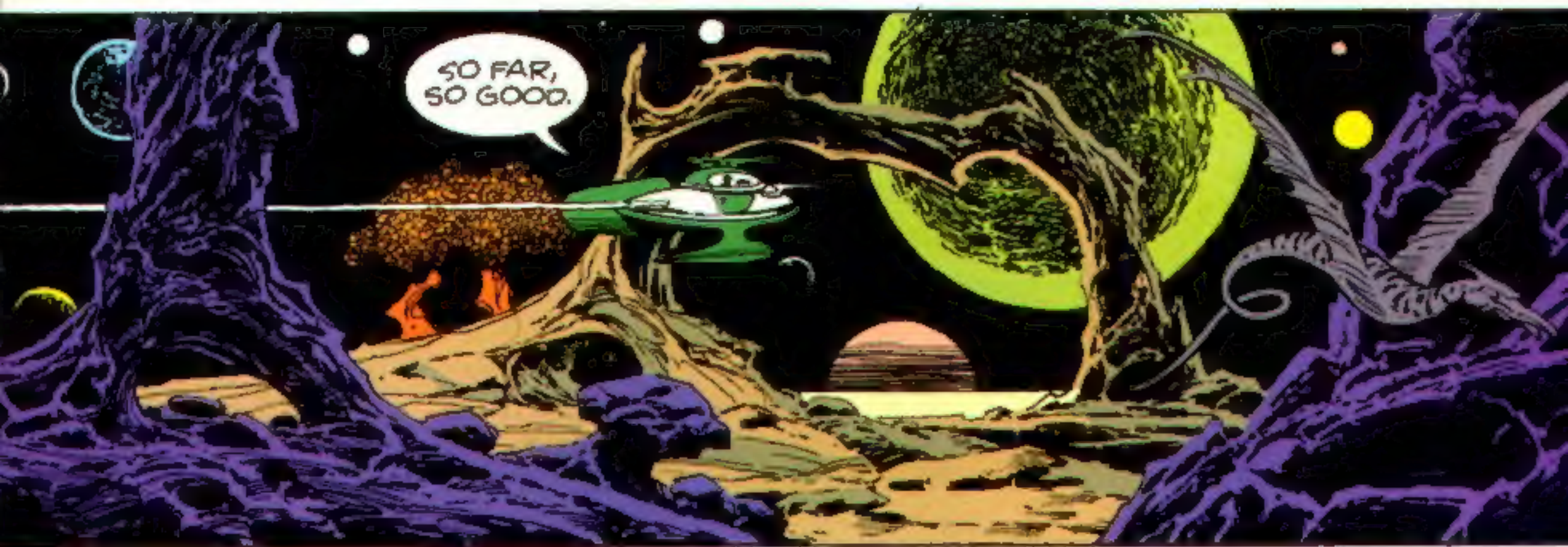
STAY  
ALERT!

AND PLEASE...  
USE THE  
CAP TO  
REMEM-  
BER!

ALTHOUGH HIS HEAD SPINS  
WITH A THOUSAND QUESTIONS,  
FLASH HOLDS HIS TONGUE.

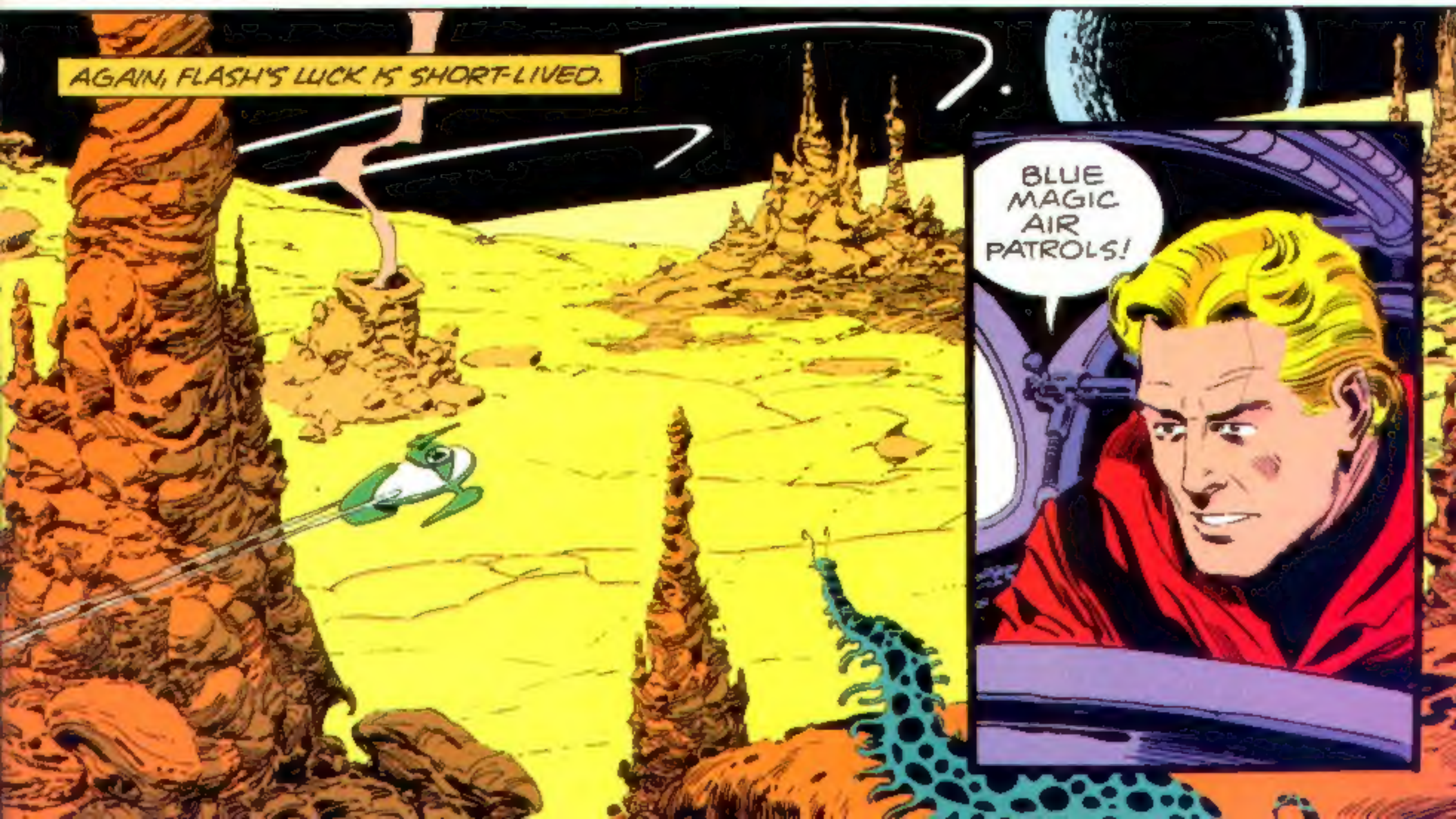


SO FAR,  
SO GOOD.

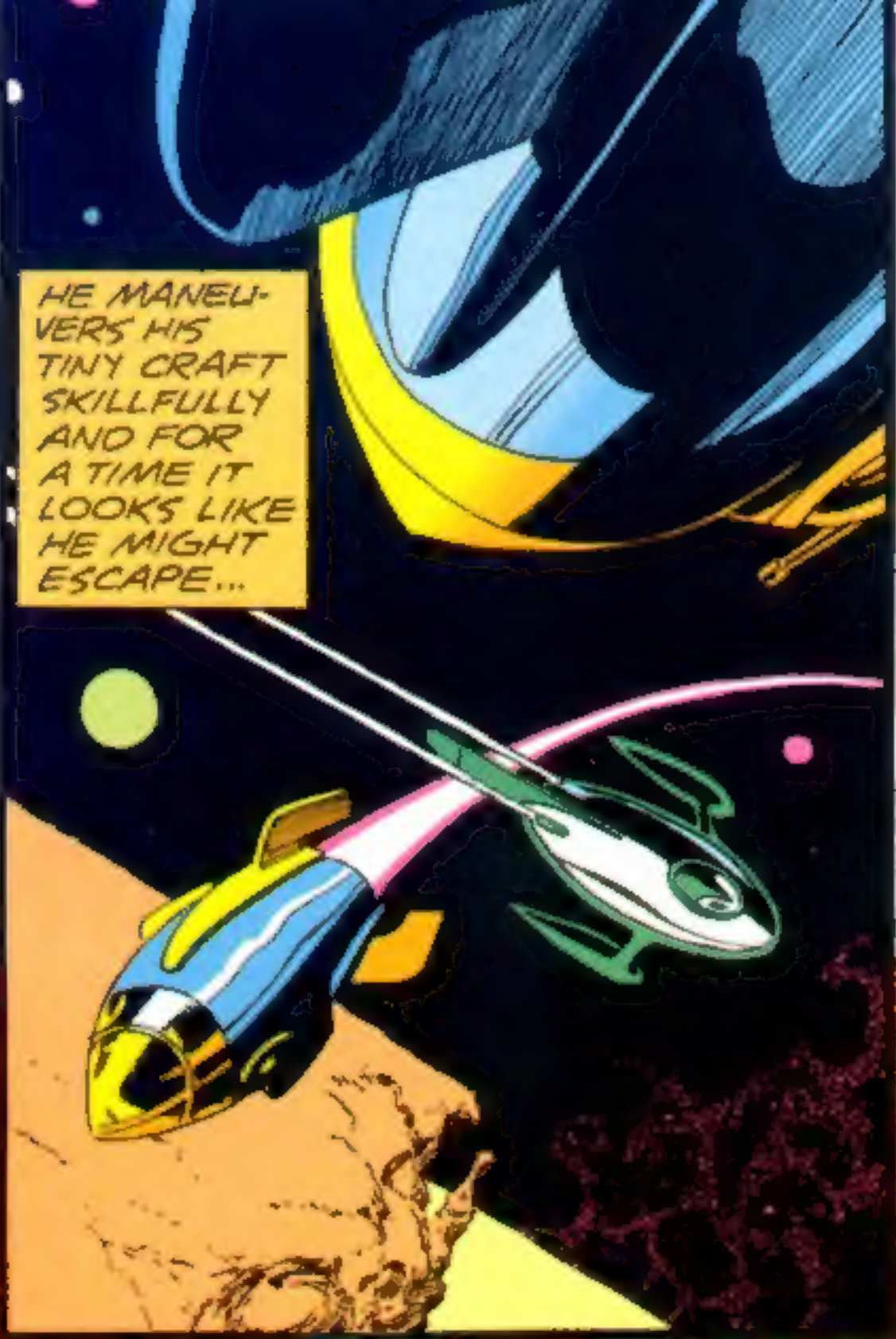


AGAIN, FLASH'S LUCK IS SHORT-LIVED.


BLUE  
MAGIC  
AIR  
PATROLS!



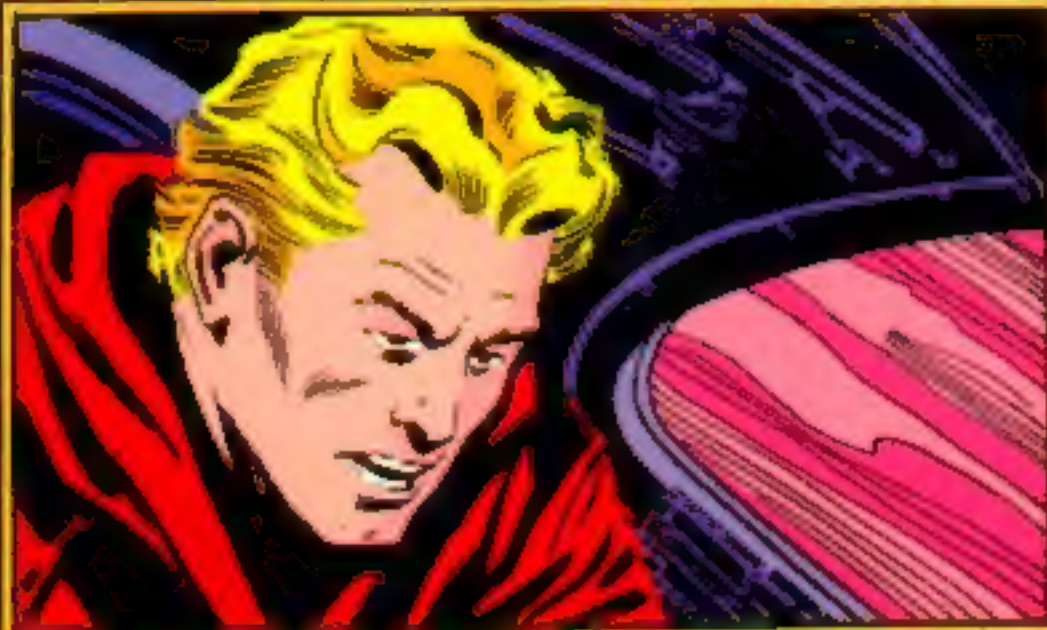


A blue and yellow rocket with a green cockpit is shown in a dynamic pose, flying through a dark space with a yellow crescent moon and a green planet in the background.


HE MANEUVERS HIS TINY CRAFT SKILLFULLY AND FOR A TIME IT LOOKS LIKE HE MIGHT ESCAPE...

A blue and yellow rocket is shown being hit by a green rocket, resulting in a large explosion. The background is a dark space with a yellow crescent moon and a green planet.

BUT FLASH'S SMALL ROCKET IS NO MATCH, FOR THE BLUE MAGIC ROCKETS ARE TOO FAST.



HIS ENGINE DESTROYED AND HIS FUEL SUPPLY IN FLAMES, FLASH PLUNGES DOWN, DOWN PAST THE BLUE MAGIC BORDER...

A large, detailed illustration of a volcanic landscape. In the foreground, a green rocket is shown falling into a pool of lava. In the background, there are several volcanoes with smoke rising from them. The sky is a mix of orange and yellow, suggesting a sunset or sunrise.

...AND INTO THE STRANGE VOLCANIC KINGDOM OF THE FIRE PEOPLE!

-TO BE CONTINUED-







